

Hoping Every Day is a Safe Day

Towada City Safe Community



Safe Community Re-designation Application (Appendix)



July 2019

Towada City, Towada City Safe Community Promotion Council

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Chapter 1 Towada City's Safety Community

1. Introduction

In August 2009, Towada City became 159th city in the world and 2nd city in Japan to receive Safe Community designation. We promoted the Safe Community program because we have long been a town with a long history of substantial health promotion activities, and many of our citizens have a high awareness of volunteerism. We have ample human resources in various fields including medicine and welfare.

Our Safe Community activities started in October 2005 with a study group organized by the Health and Welfare Departments. Over time, general residents and supporters became involved, and the foundation of our Safe Community was built with the cooperation of these people. This led us to act toward achieving official certification. The participants' hopes for a safe community increased with these study groups, and in 2007 it was officially decided to aim for Safe Community designation.

In 2007, study group participants started up the "Committee to Realize Safe Community Towada". From before designation until present day, the committee has led the Safe Community activities with the slogan "Hoping Every Day is a Safe Day". Currently, the group has been renamed as the "Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion" and participates actively as a member of the Safe Community Promotion Organization. August has been designated as the "Towada City Protect Life Action Month", to commemorate the month that we received Safe Community designation. The "Safe and Secure City Planning General Action Meeting" is held each year promote suicide prevention and accidental death prevention. Citizens from children to the elderly remember that they are part of the Safe Community designated city, and increase awareness that they should all work to prevent tragic accidental deaths.

In this manner, a major feature of the Towada Safe Community program is that it has grown from a citizen-participation activity to a citizen-led activity.

Since acquiring re-designation in 2015, we have made an effort to sustain and further develop our activities. We have collaborated with our citizen volunteers as well as people from various fields and occupations including government, health, medicine, welfare, education and private companies. We are diligently continuing our activities as a Safe Community designated city with a common goal to create a safe and secure city.



2. Overview of Towada City

[1] Location and Features

Towada City is located in the central southeast of Aomori Prefecture, which is at the very north of Honshu Island. The governorate area is rather large at 725.65 km². This large area makes it the third largest city of Aomori Prefecture's 40 cities and towns.

The mystic Lake Towada and the Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) stream with a kaleidoscopic flow are highlights of the Towada-Hachimantai National Park in the skirts of the majestic Mt. Hakkoda. Known as some of Japanese premiere tourist spots, this area is visited by many from Japan and overseas.

The center of the city was developed about 160 years ago following the development plans drawn by Tsuto Nitobe, grandfather of Dr. Inazo Nitobe author of "Bushido" and the new city plan drawn by his son Jujiro Nitobe. The neatly zoned nature-rich streets are called the roots of Japan's modern urban planning.

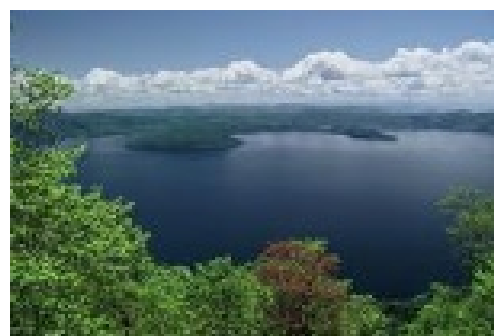
The manmade Inougawa River irrigates the rice paddies and fields, creating one of the prefecture's prosperous agricultural areas. In recent years, Towada City has developed into a central area that supports the prefecture's southern region's medicine, welfare and economy, etc.

In 2008, the Towada City Art Center opened at Kanchogai-dori Street, which has been selected as one of Japan's top 100 scenic roads by the former Ministry of Construction in 1986. Arts Towada, which transforms the entire street into an art museum, is currently on display.

Here in Towada City, our rich nature, modern street scenes, and modern art beautifully intertwine.

Population: 61,768 people (as of end of Sept. 2018)

Area: 725.65 km²



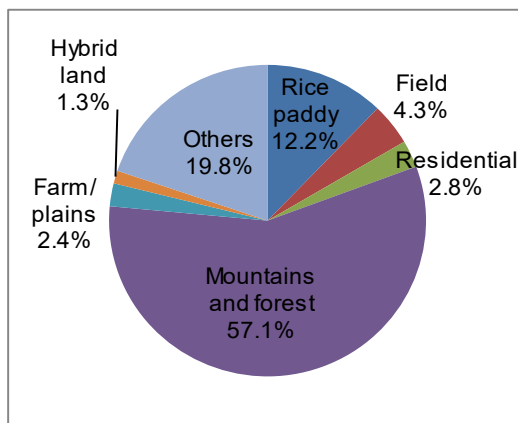
[2] Land Use

When classified by use, 57.1% of our city's land is mountains and forest, and 2.8% is residential land.

Fig.1-1 Towada City land usage area (as of January 1, 2018)

“Source: Fixed assets summary report (Tax Affairs Section)”

| Class | Area |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Rice paddy | 88.56 km ² |
| Field | 31.52 km ² |
| Residential | 20.43 km ² |
| Mountains and forest | 414.42 km ² |
| Farm/plains | 17.28 km ² |
| Hybrid land | 9.66 km ² |
| Others | 143.78 km ² |
| Total area | 725.65 km ² |



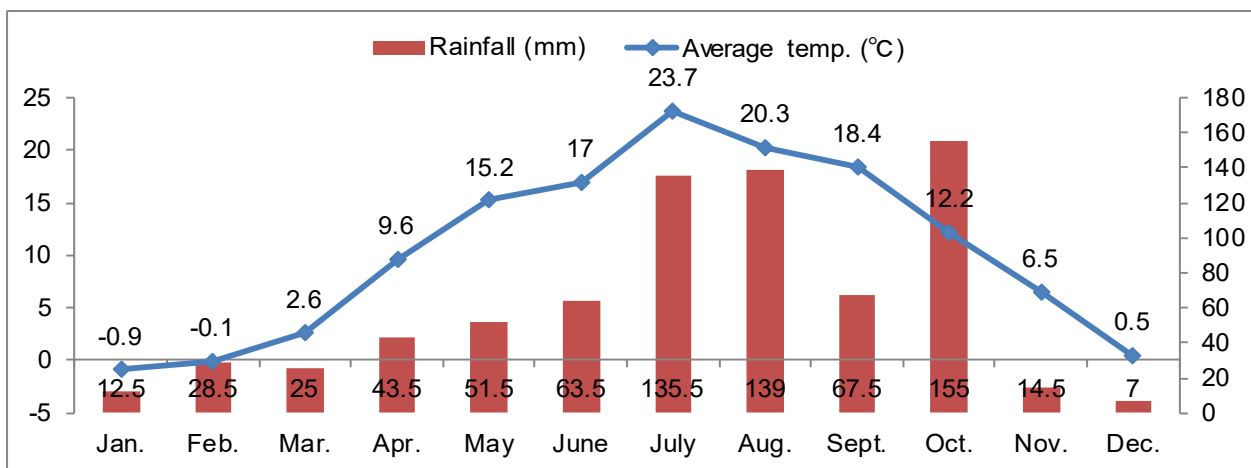
[3] Climate

Towada City is situated in the relatively gently Pacific coast climate however, the average temperature drops below 1°C between December and February, and the city is covered with snow.

The Old Towada-ko town area in the western part of the city is designated by the country as a special heavy snowfall area.

Fig. 1-2 Towada City temperature and rainfall (2017)

“Source: Fire Department data”

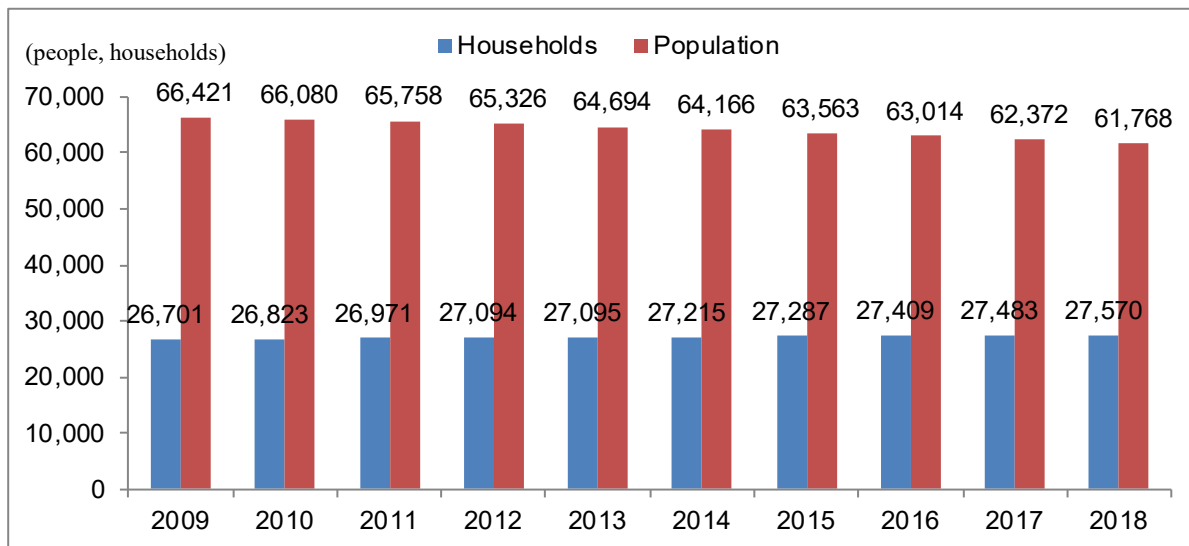


| Class | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Average temp. (°C) | -0.9 | -0.1 | 2.6 | 9.6 | 15.2 | 17.0 | 23.7 | 20.3 | 18.4 | 12.2 | 6.5 | 0.5 |
| Rainfall (mm) | 12.5 | 28.5 | 25.0 | 43.5 | 51.5 | 63.5 | 135.5 | 139.0 | 67.5 | 155.0 | 14.5 | 7.0 |

[4] Population and Households

As of 2018, Towada City's population was 61,768 down 4,653 from 2009, the first year we were certified. There are 27,570 households, which is an increase of 869 households from 2009. Since the number of households is increasing even though the population is decreasing, we can assume that nuclear families are on the increase.

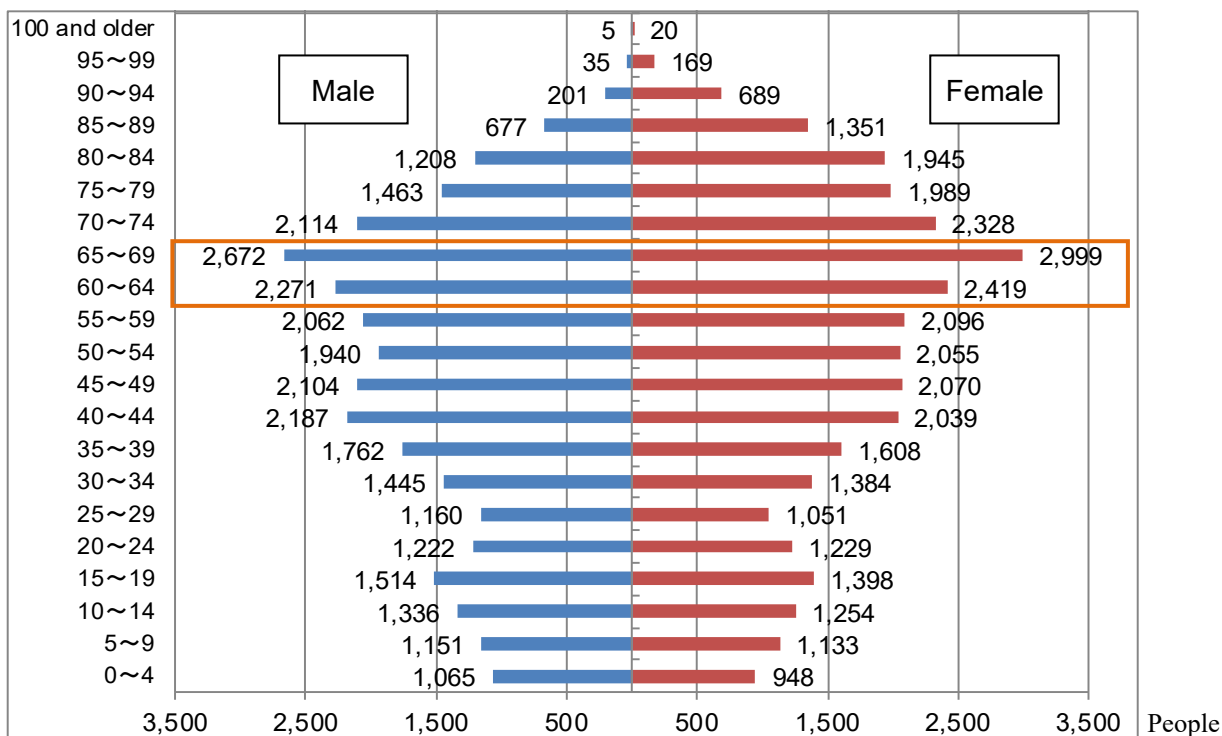
Fig. 1-3 Transition of Towada City population and households "Source: Basic Resident Register (as of Sept. 30 of each year)"



The 2018 population distribution indicates that the population is high in the over-60 age group for both men and women.

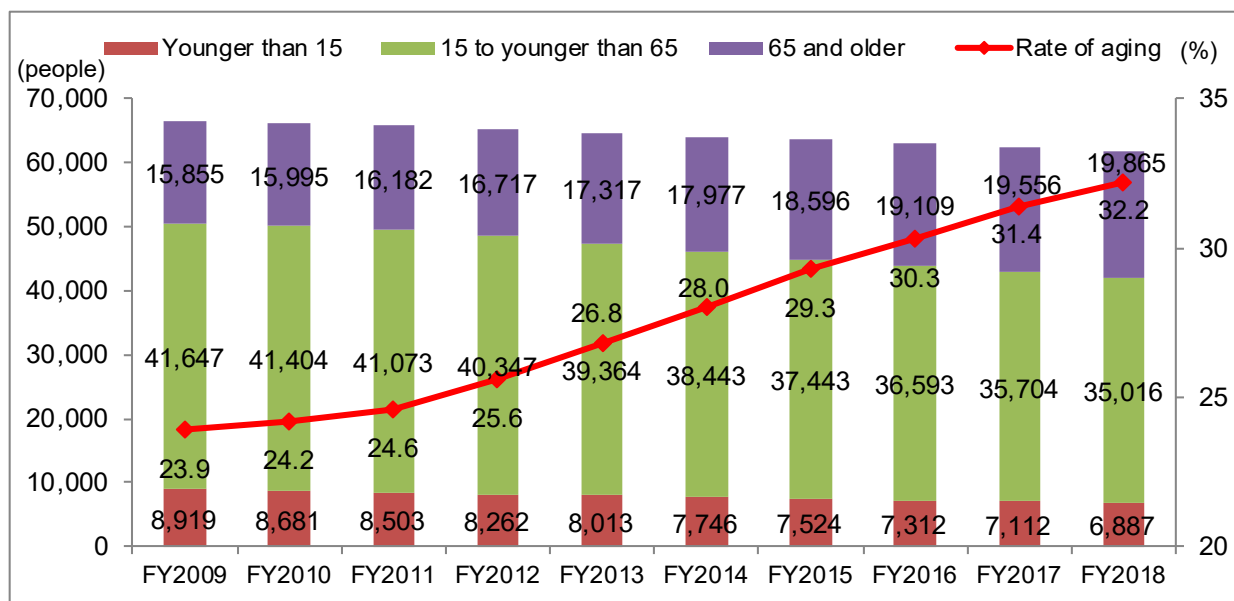
Since the under-50 population is low, the decreasing birthrate and aging population will continue to advance.

Fig. 1-4 Towada City Population distribution by age group (FY2018) "Source: Basic Resident Register (as of September 30)"



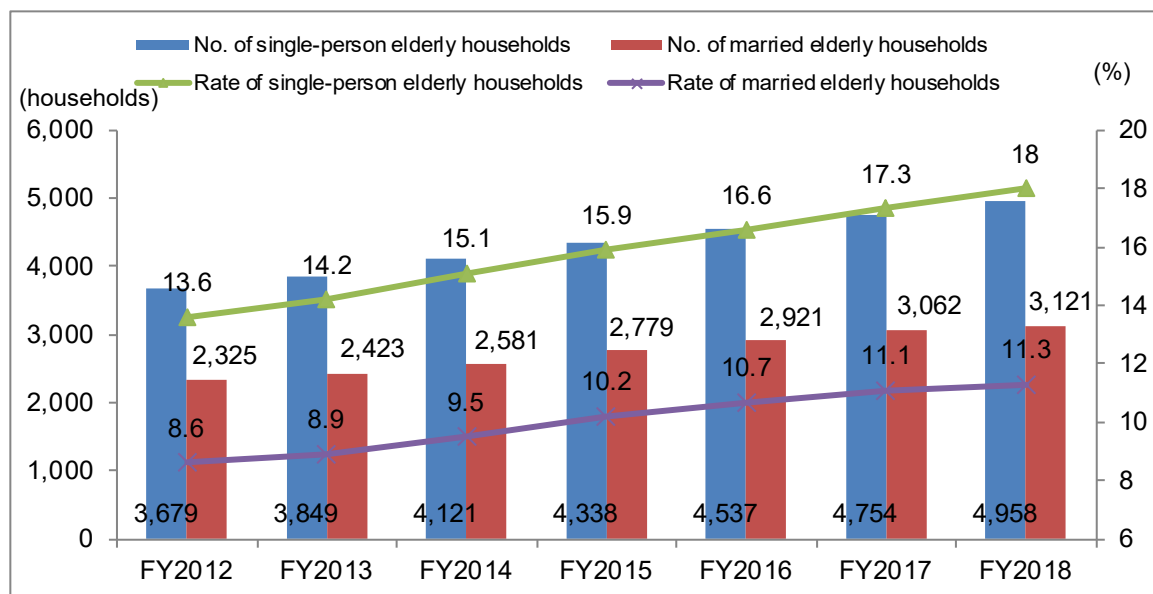
Looking at the transition by age group, the under-64 population is declining in all age groups, but the over-65 age population is increasing. The rate of aging in 2018 was 32.2% indicating that the community is aging.

Fig. 1-5 Transition of Towada City population by age group "Source: Basic Residents Register (as of Sept. 30 of each year)"



For the situation of elderly households, both single-person households and married households are increasing yearly. Single-person elderly households account for 18.0% of all households, and married elderly households account for 11.3% in 2018.

Fig. 1-6 Transition of elderly households in Towada City (as of Sept. 30) "Source: 7th Elderly Welfare Plan / Nursing Care Insurance Project Plan"



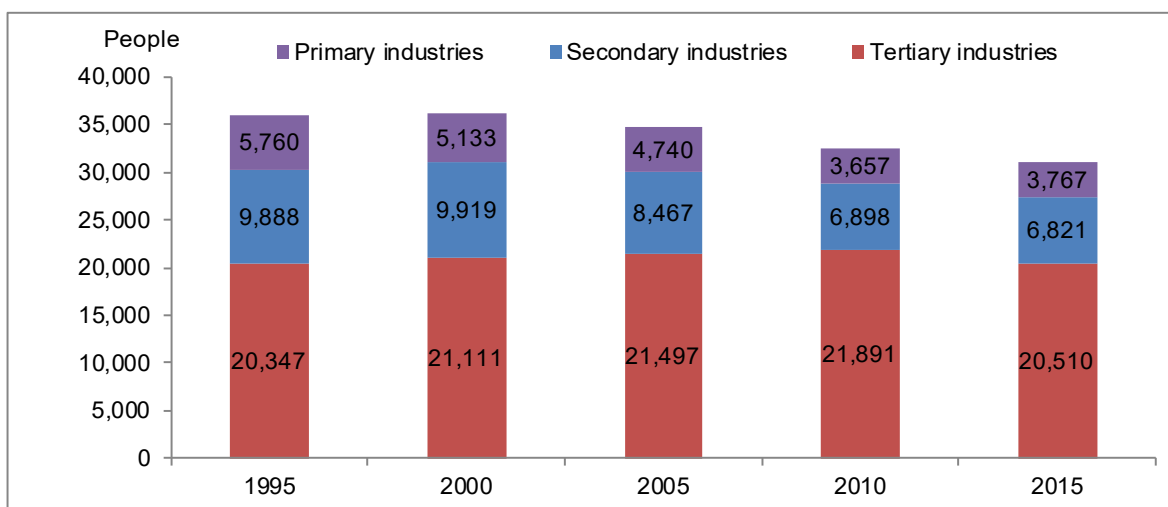
[5] Population by Industry

The labor population by industry has been on the decline since 2000.

Looking at the composition ratio by industry for 2015, primary industries, which are Towada City's key industries, have a population of 3,767 people, secondary industries have a population of 6,821 people, and tertiary industries have a population of 20,510 people.

Fig. 1-7 Transition of Towada City's labor population by industry (1995-2015)

"Source: National consensus"



[6] Urban Functions

Towada City's medical institutions include five hospitals, 41 clinics and 25 dental clinics.

Fig. 1-8 Number of medical institutions and sickbeds per 100,000 people in Towada City (2017)

"Source: Aomori Prefecture Annual Health Statistics"

| Hospital | | | | | Clinic | | Dental clinic |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Number of facilities | Total number of sickbeds | Number of mental sickbeds | Number of contagious disease sickbeds | Number of regular sickbeds | Number of facilities | Total number of sickbeds | Number of facilities |
| 5 | 988 | (539) | (4) | (445) | 41 | 97 | 25 |

Towada City's educational institutions include 16 elementary schools, 10 junior high schools, 4 high schools, 1 vocational school and 1 university.

Fig.1-9 Towada City's educational institutions (2017)

"Source: School Survey"

| Class | Elementary school | Junior high school | Senior high school | Vocational school | University |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Educational institution | 16 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Number of pupils/students | 2,903 people | 1,769 people | 1,936 people | 42 people | 1,780 people |

As educational and childcare facilities for preschoolers, Towada City has 2 kindergartens, 19 authorized nursery schools, 10 childcare facilities, 1 small-scale childcare facility, and 1 unauthorized nursery school.

Fig. 1-10 Towada City's educational and nursery facilities (2018)

"Source: Child and Childcare Support Section"

| Class | Kindergarten | Authorized nursery school | Authorized childcare facility | Small-scale childcare facility | Unauthorized nursery school |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of facilities | 2 | 19 | 10 | 1 | 1 |

[7] Tourism Promotion

Lake Towada and Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) streams are highlights of the Towada-Hachimantai National Park, and are known as one of Japan's premiere sightseeing areas. Many people visit from both in Japan and overseas.

The Towada City Art Center is located at Kanchogai-dori Street, which has been selected as one of Japan's top 100 scenic roads. The entire street has been transformed into an art museum where various pieces of modern art are displayed.

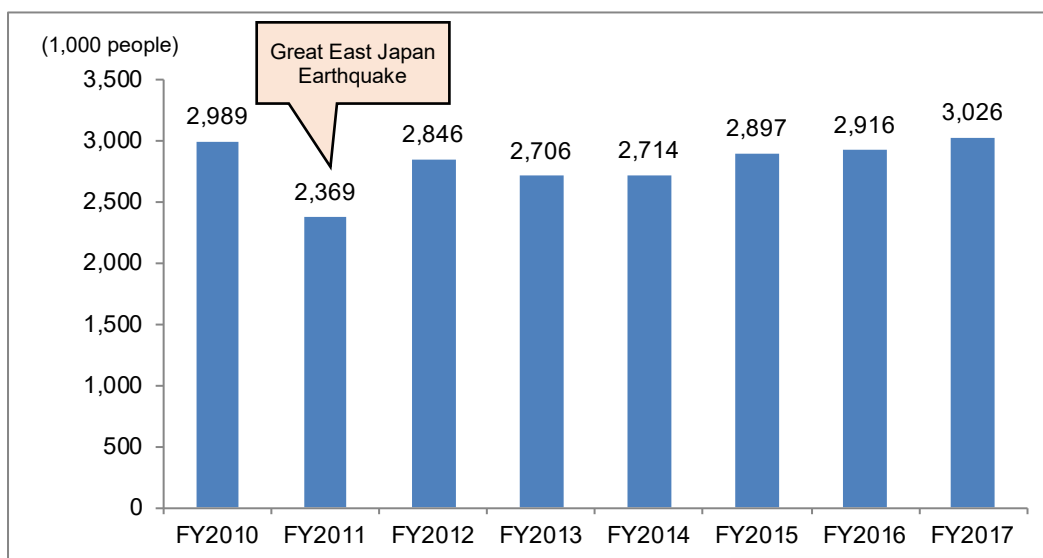
A variety of events are held each season throughout the city, including the Towada City Spring Festival, Autumn Festival and the Lake Towada Winter Stories Festival. In 2015, the “B-1 Grand Prix”, a city promoting culinary festival was held. Visitors traveled from within and outside the prefecture to enjoy local B-grade gourmet representing local areas from around Japan.

In 2019, the Sakura Yabusame competition featuring women yabusame horseback archers was awarded the “Cool Japan Award 2019” by a panel of foreign judges. This event has gained attention from an international perspective.

The Towada Oirase Tourism Bureau was established in April 2019. The Bureau cooperates with major shipping and travel related companies in the prefecture to conduct activities to create attractive tourist spots and revitalize the community.

Fig. 1-11 Number of visitors to Towada City

“Source: Aomori Prefecture Visitor Statistics (Aomori Prefecture Tourism and International Affairs Strategy Bureau)”



3. Status of Towada City Safe Community Activities

[1] Main Programs for Safe Community Designation

| Month/year | Outline |
|------------|--|
| May 2004 | Kamitosan Health Department started promoting philosophy of Safe Communities. |
| July 2004 | Workshop (1) was held after citizens showed interest in safety promotion at various study groups and lectures held by Kamitosan Health Department, etc. |
| Aug. 2005 | Director of Kamitosan Health Department explained the Safe Community program to the mayor |
| July 2006 | Members of the Association of the Study of Security Science study group participated in an inspection tour of Taiwanese Safe Communities (Neihu, Dongshi) (2). |
| Jan. 2007 | The "Towada Safe Community Citizens", the volunteer group, was formally established. |
| April 2007 | The mayor formally announced city's intention to acquire Safe Community designation. |
| Sept. 2007 | Professor Leif Svanström visited Towada City to pay a courtesy call on the mayor and give a lecture. (2) |
| Feb. 2008 | The Safe Community Project Team, a cross-sectional organization chaired by the mayor was established. |
| May 2008 | Working groups for eight Safe Community areas were established. |
| June 2008 | Survey of Household Injuries was conducted with a total of 140 inspectors. (600 households visited; collection rate 78.4%) |
| July 2008 | Dr. Nam-Soo Park from the Asian Safe Community Collaborating Support Centre visited Towada City. |
| Aug. 2008 | Collaboration agreement entered with Aomori University of Health and Welfare. |
| March 2009 | Safety Community on-site review |
| Aug. 2009 | Safe Community designation received. (3) Sponsored Japan Safe Promotion Academic Conference. |



(1) Safe Community workshop



(2) Visit by Prof. Leif Svanström



(3) Safe Community designation ceremony

[2] Main Programs from Safe Community Designation to Today

| Month/year | Outline |
|------------|--|
| Sept. 2009 | Renamed the "Towada Safe Community Citizens" to the "Towada Safe Community Promotion Committee" |
| April 2010 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transferred the Safe Community related duties from the Health Promotion Section to the Living Environment Section, and assigned specialists for newly established Safe Community Promotion Section Started trial collection of emergency transport data from Fire Department Headquarters |
| Oct. 2010 | Started trial collection of injury data from local surgery and orthopedics departments |
| March 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and Security Mail Distribution System established Entered "Agreement for exchange of safety and security information, etc." with Towada Police Department (4) |
| April 2011 | Collection of injury data from Fire Department and local surgery and orthopedics departments started |
| Sept. 2011 | Held briefing on survey of household injuries for medical institutions and Fire Department Headquarters, etc. |
| Nov. 2011 | Participated in the National SC Promotion Municipality Network Conference |
| May 2012 | Set every August as "Towada City Protect Life Action Month", to recognize SC certification (5) |



(4) Entered "Agreement for exchange of safety and security information, etc."



(5) Street campaigns for "Towada City Protect Life Action Month"

| | |
|------------|--|
| March 2013 | Towada City Municipal Basic Ordinance "Safe and Secure City Planning through Cooperation" enacted |
| April 2013 | Safe Community supervisor set in City Planning Support Section (formerly, Living Environment Section) |
| June 2013 | Towada City Injury Surveillance Committee established |
| July 2013 | Japan Institute of Safe Communities started support for safe communities |
| Nov. 2013 | Consented to National SC Promotion Municipality Network Conference "Agreement on mutual support in time of disaster" |
| May 2014 | Safe Community preliminary inspection (re-designation) |
| Dec. 2014 | Safety Community onsite evaluation (re-designation) |
| Feb. 2015 | Yoko Araiya, chair at that time of the Towada Safe Community Promotion Committee gave a commemorative lecture at Kitamoto City, Saitama Prefecture Safe Community designation ceremony (6) |
| Feb. 2015 | Safe Community re-designation acquired. Safety and Security Exhibit held. |
| April 2016 | Pediatricians from Thailand visit to observe Safe Community program (7) |
| Mar. 2017 | Sector-specific Task Force Committee General Meeting held as a town hall meeting |
| Dec. 2018 | Preliminary evaluation for second Safe Community re-designation |



(6) Commemorative lecture at Kitamoto City Safe Community designation ceremony (Chair Araiya)



(7) Tour of SC by Thai pediatricians

[3] Collaboration Agreement with Aomori University of Health and Welfare

In August 2008, our city entered into a support agreement with the Aomori University of Health and Welfare to promote the Safe Community program.

The university analyzes our injury surveys and participates as a member of the Safe Community Promotion Organization, thus forming an important relation with our city.

[4] "Agreement on Exchange of Safety and Security Information, etc." Entered into with Towada Police Department

In March 2011, an "Agreement on Exchange of Safety and Security Information, etc." was entered into between our city and the Towada Police Department.

This agreement aims to create a community in which citizens can live safely and without worry. Information on safety shall be provided, and activities for crime prevention, traffic safety and disaster prevention will be held in collaboration.

[5] Inspection by Safe Community

In preparation for Safe Community third designation, Towada City invited authorized Safe Community certifying inspectors to visit on December 5 and 6, 2018 and review the state of our Safe Community activities. The inspectors were Meegan Brotherton of Australia, and the Japan Institute for Safe Communities' Director Yoko Shiraishi and Deputy-Director Hisato Imai.

The main venue was the City Hall Conference Rooms. Presentations were made on the eight Safe Community Task Forces and injury surveillance programs and transition of data, etc. The inspectors gave guidance and advice on the data analysis and activities, etc.

The inspectors also visited activities related to preventing falls by the elderly, and confirmed actual injury prevention programs.

Schedule of preliminary review

| Schedule | | Details | Venue, etc. |
|------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Dec. 4 (Tue.) | Afternoon | • Inspectors arrive | Misawa Airport arrival |
| | | • Meeting with mayor | Mayor's Office |
| | | • Explanation of preliminary evaluation schedule | |
| Dec. 5 (Wed.) | Morning | • Explanation of general overview | Council meeting room |
| | | • Explanation of injury surveillance | |
| | | • Explanation of Child Safety Task Force | |
| | Afternoon | • Tour of Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program | |
| | | • Explanation of Elderly Safety Task Force | |
| | | • Explanation of Suicide Prevention Task Force | |
| Evening | • Reception and Exchange (Organizers: Towada SC Promotion Committee) | Sun Royal Towada | |
| Dec. 6 (Thu.) | Morning | • Explanation of Traffic Accident Prevention Task Force | Council meeting room |
| | | • Explanation of Disaster Prevention Task Force | |
| | | • Explanation of Violence and Abuse Prevention Task Force | |
| | Afternoon | • Explanation of Leisure Activity Safety Task Force | |
| | | • Explanation of Labor Safety Task Force | |
| | | • Comments from inspectors | |
| Dec. 7 (Fri.) | | • Inspectors depart | Misawa Airport departure |



Presentation by Task Force



Q&A with experts



Tour of Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program



Review by experts

Chapter 2 State of Deaths by Injury and Injuries, etc., in Towada City

1. State of deaths

[1] Cause of Death Including Illness

In the ten years between 2008 and 2017, there were 7,390 deaths, or 739 deaths per year. Of these deaths, 309 deaths were caused by injuries sustained in accidents ranking 6th, and 202 were by suicide ranking 7th place for cause. The composition rate shows that unintentional accidents account for 4% of deaths, and suicides account for 3%.

Fig. 2-1 Order of cause of deaths (2008 to 2017) "Source: Aomori Prefecture Health Statistics Annual Report"

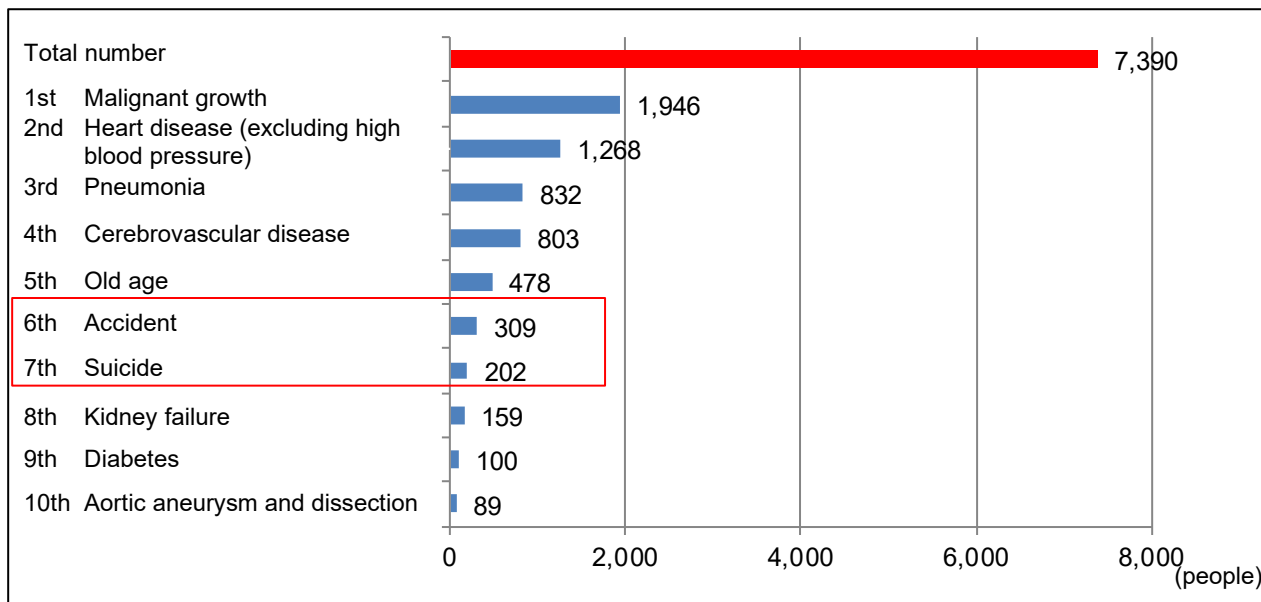
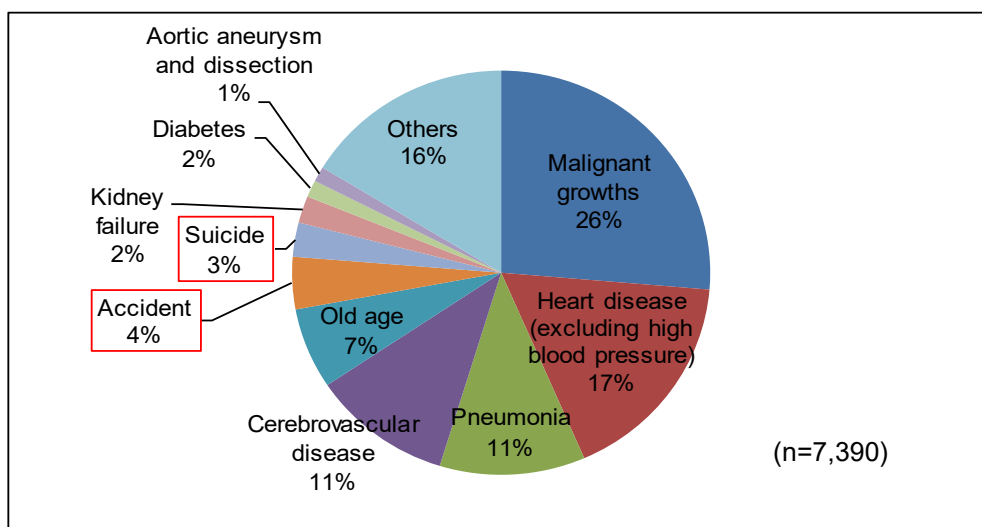


Fig. 2-2 Composition ratio of causes of death (2008 to 2017) "Source: Aomori Prefecture Health Statistics Annual Report"

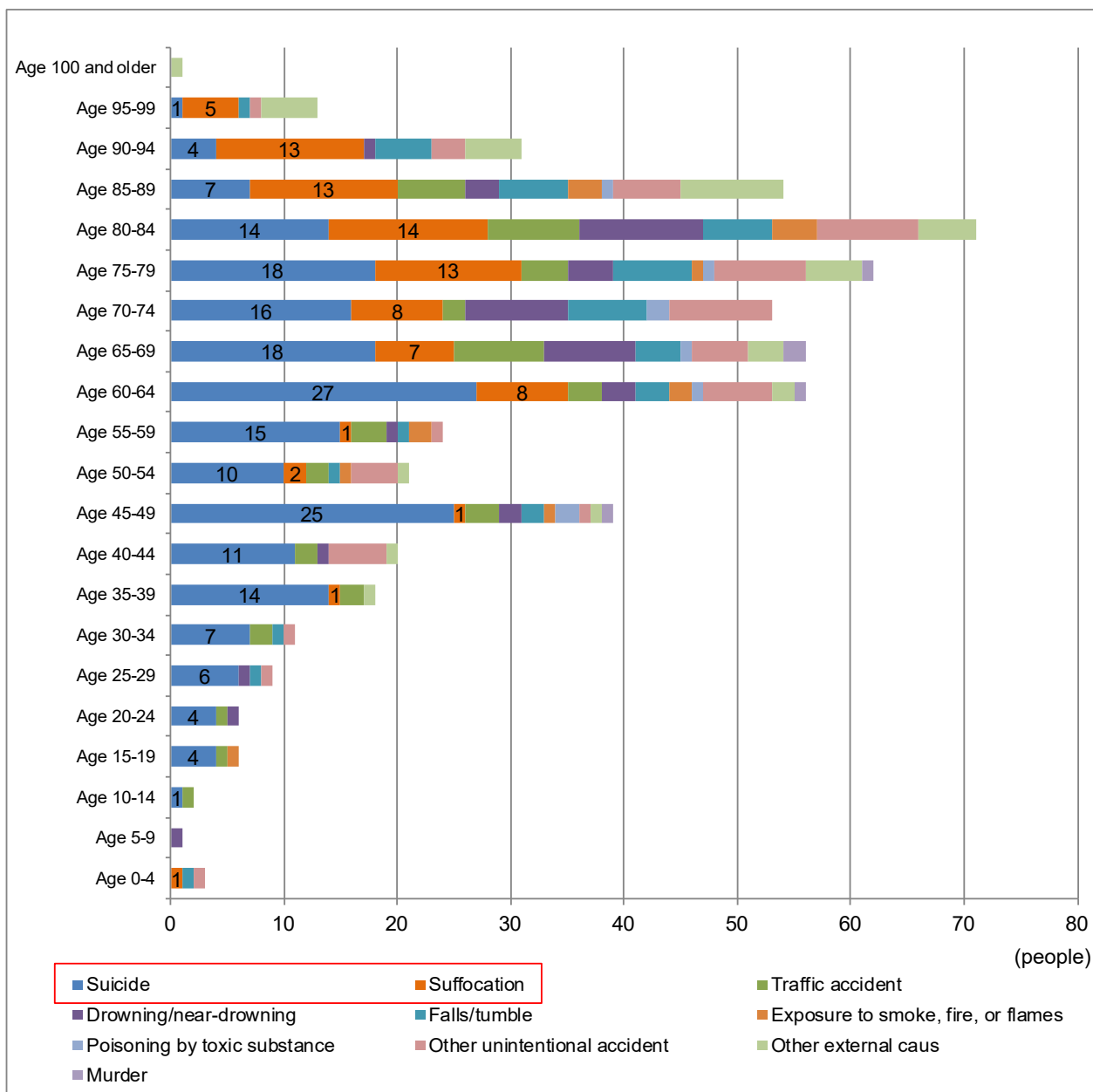


[2] Cause of Death by Injury According to Age Group

For the cause of death by injury according to age group in the ten years between 2008 and 2017, suicides are highest in a wide range from ages 15 to 79. Accidental suffocation is high in ages 80 to 99.

Fig. 2-3 Order of cause of death by injury according to age group (2008 to 2017)

“Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)”



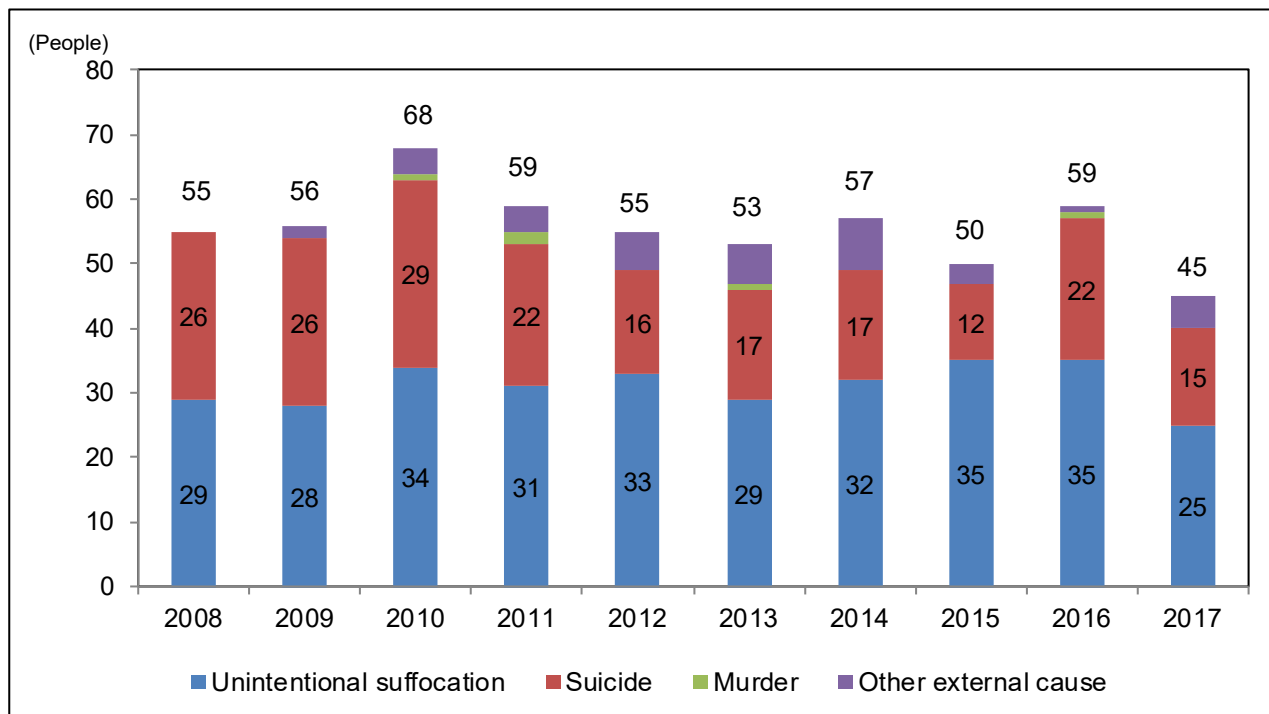
[3] Transition in Number of Deaths by Injury

The number of deaths by injury remained level after 2011, and dropped below 50 people in 2017.

The number of deaths by suicide was declining after 2011, but increased in 2016. It dropped again in 2017.

Fig. 2-4 Transition in number of deaths by injury (2008 to 2017)

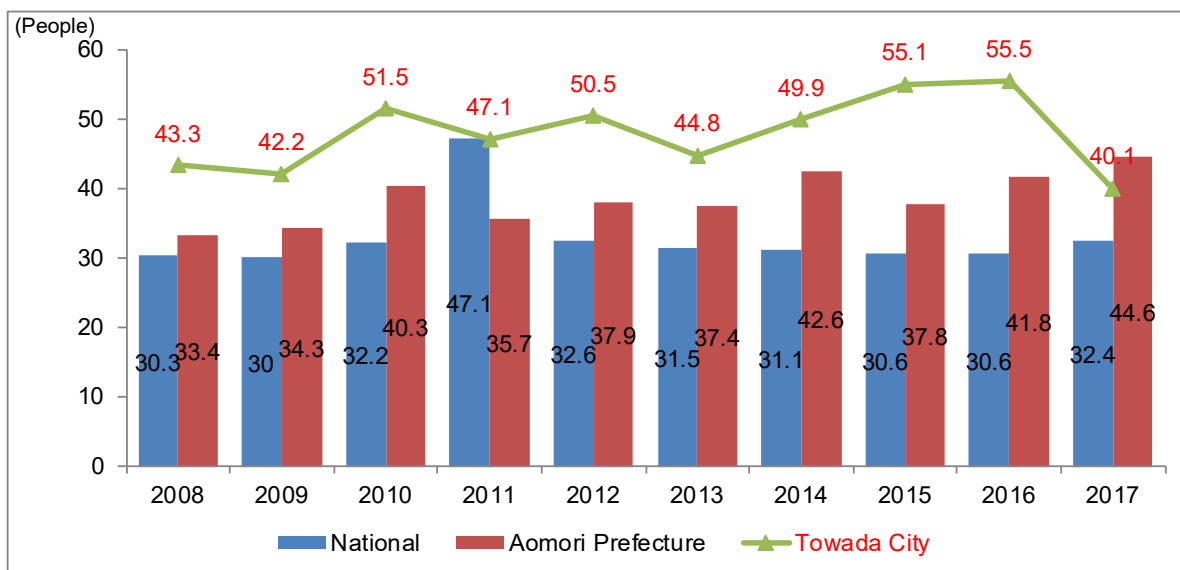
“Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)”



[4] Transition in Number of Deaths by Accident

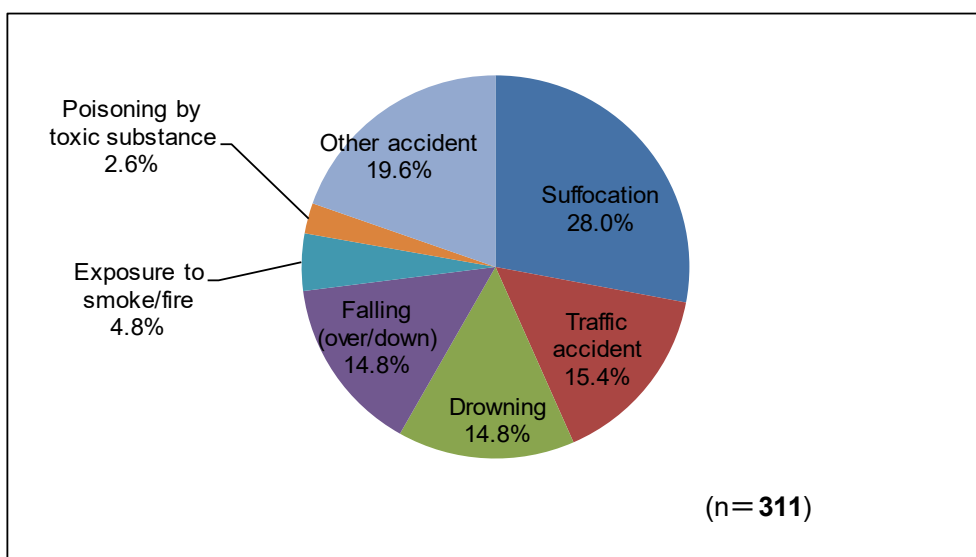
Looking at the number of deaths by accident per 100,000 people, the situation in Towada City is higher than Aomori Prefecture and national numbers. The number has been on the rise in the past few years, but dropped below the Aomori Prefecture number in 2017.

Fig. 2-5 Transition of number of deaths by accidents per 100,000 people
 "Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)"



In terms of causes of death by accident in Towada City, suffocation accounted for 28.0%, traffic accidents accounted for 15.4%, and drowning accounted for 14.8%.

Fig. 2-6 Details of deaths by accident (total for 2008 to 2017)
 "Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)"



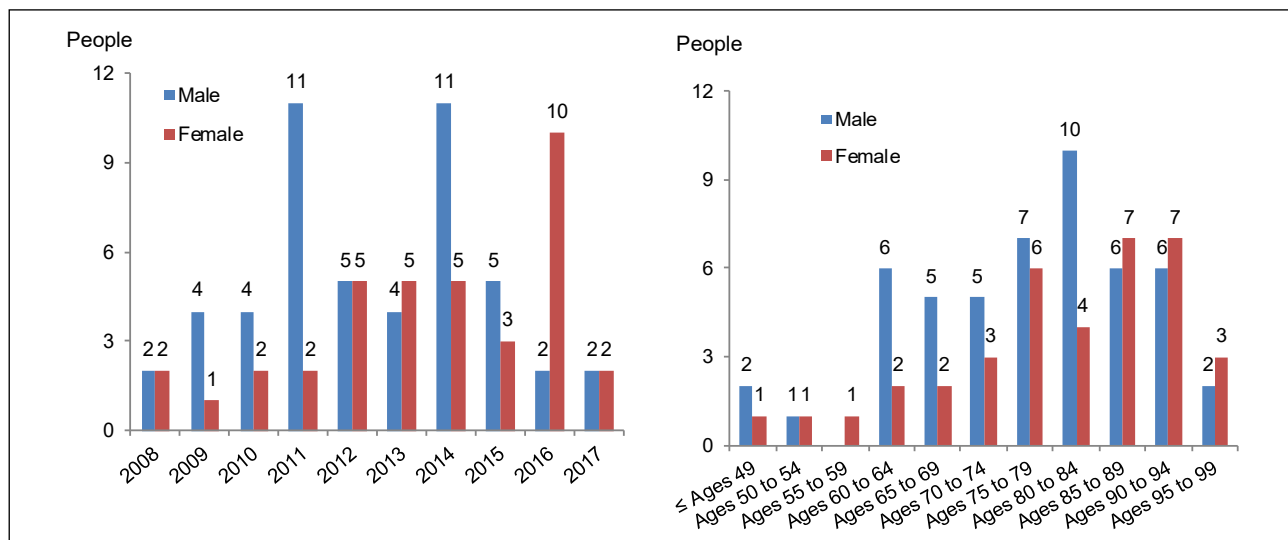
1) State of unintentional suffocation

Of accidental deaths, the number of deaths by suffocation is high among men.

The number is also high for the elderly ages 65 and older.

Fig. 2-7 Transition of number of deaths by "unintentional suffocation" and state per age group

"Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)"



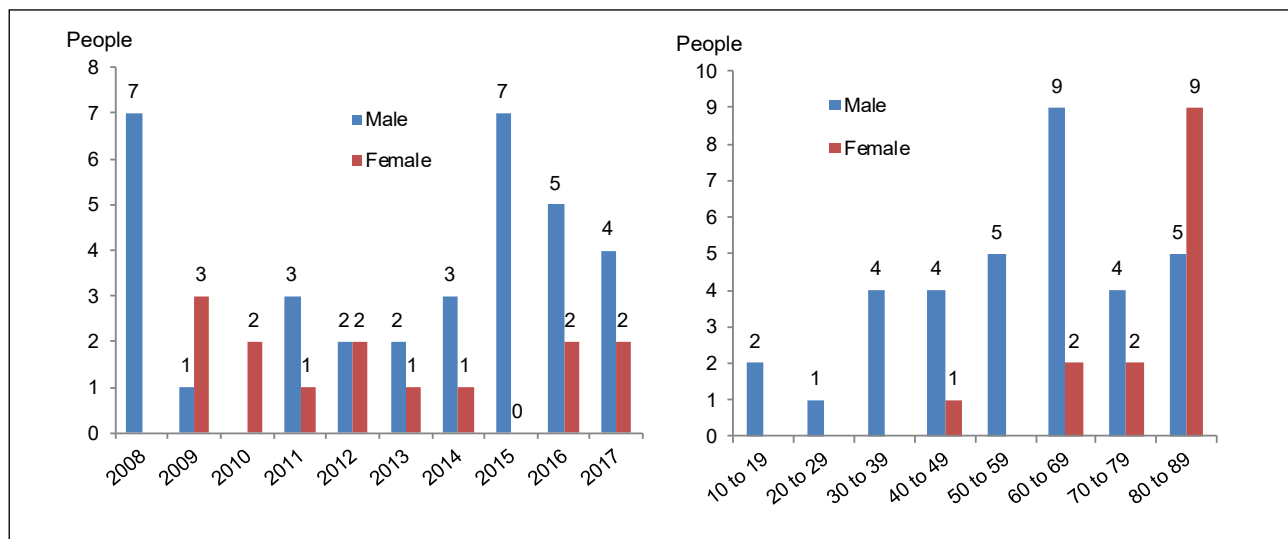
2) State of traffic accidents

Of accidental deaths, the number of deaths by traffic accidents is high among men.

In women, the number is high for elderly women ages 80 and older.

Fig. 2-8 Transition of number of deaths by "traffic accidents" and state per age group

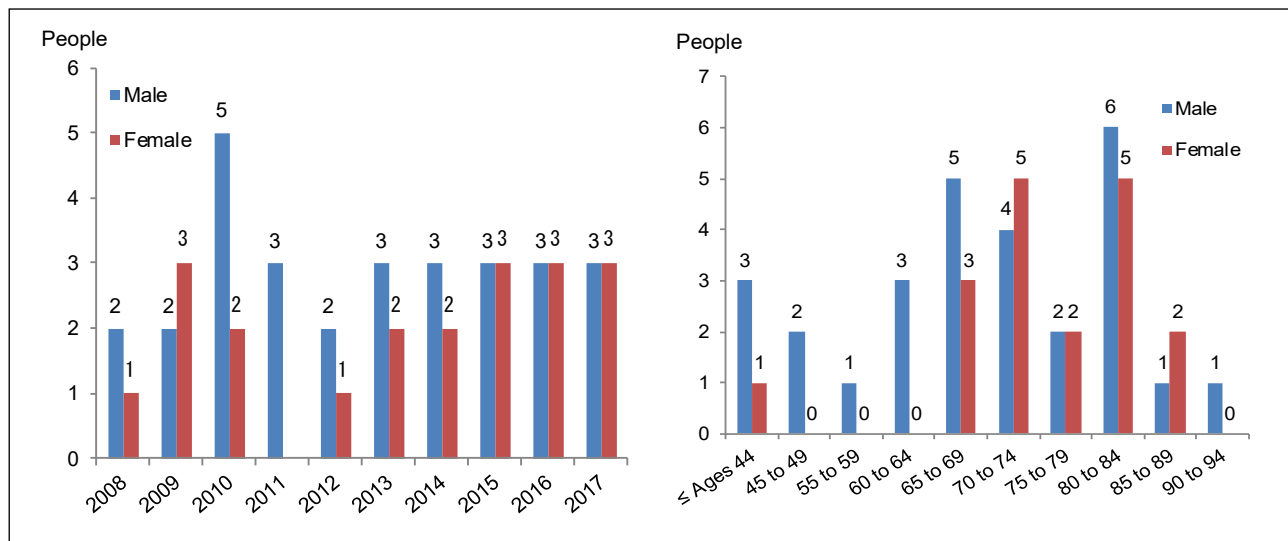
"Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)"



3) State of drowning accidents

Of accidental, there are deaths from drowning and near-drowning each year, with numbers especially high among the elderly ages 65 and older.

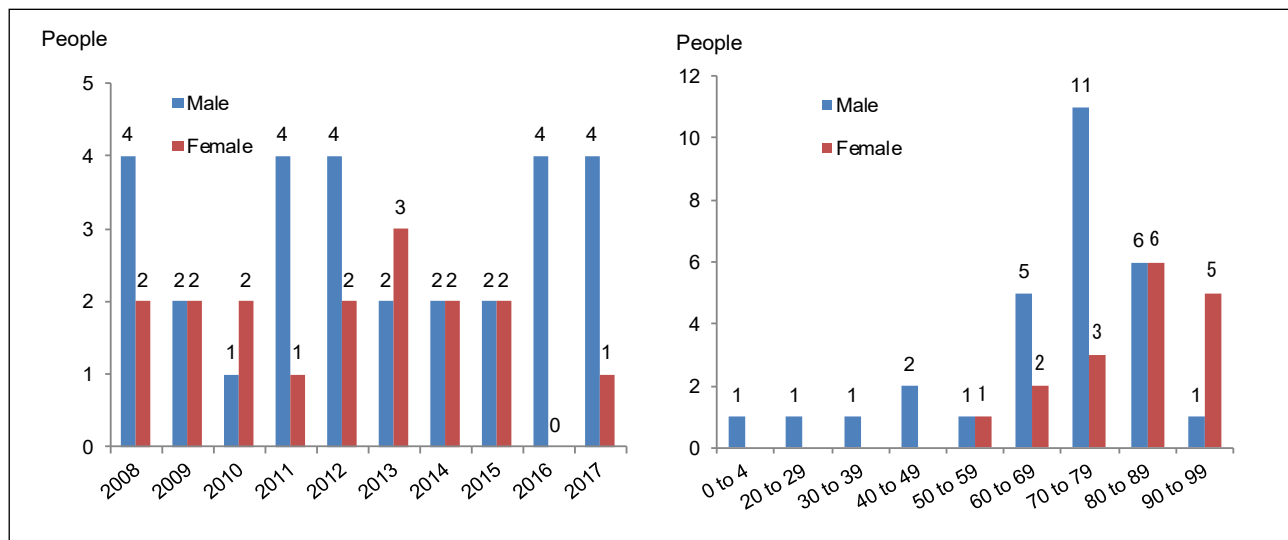
Fig. 2-9 Transition of number of deaths by “unintentional drowning” and state per age group
 “Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)”



4) State of falling (over and down)

Of accidental deaths, the number of deaths by falling over or falling down is high among men. Among women, there have been deaths from ages 50 and higher.

Fig. 2-10 Transition of number of deaths by “unintentional falling (over/down)” and state per age group
 “Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)”

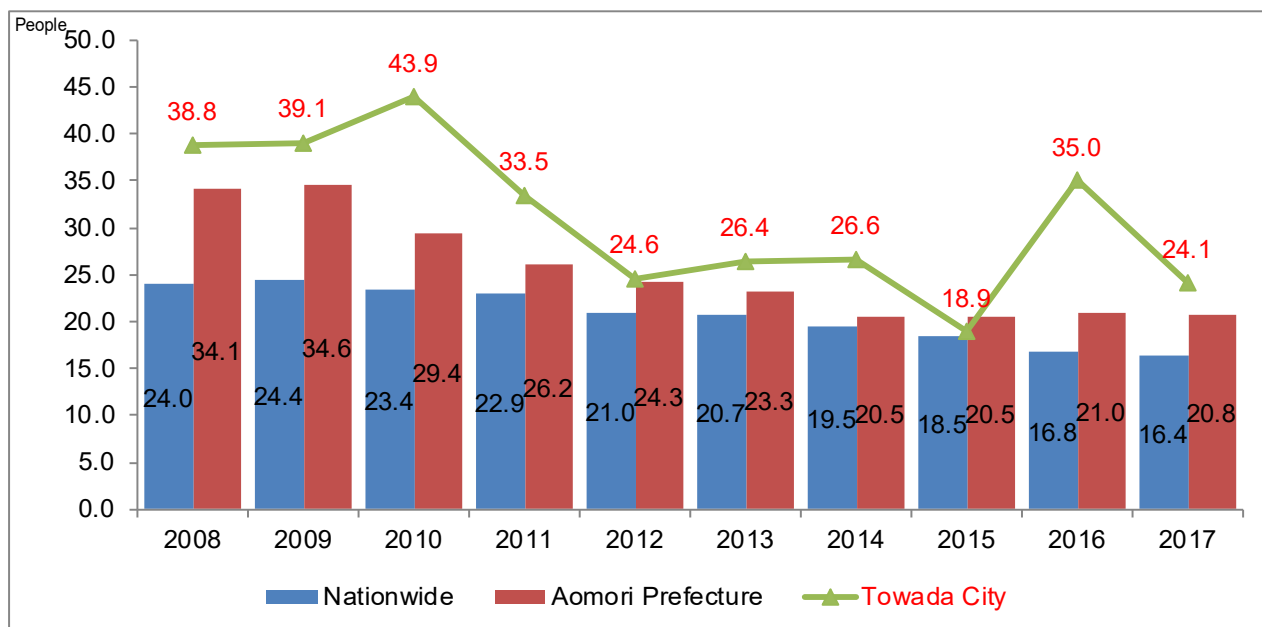


[5] Number of Deaths by Suicide

Looking at the number of deaths by suicide in Towada City per 100,000 people, the numbers have been decreasing since 2010. However, the number was a large increase in 2016, after which the numbers declined in 2017.

The number of deaths by suicide is high compared to national and Aomori Prefecture numbers.

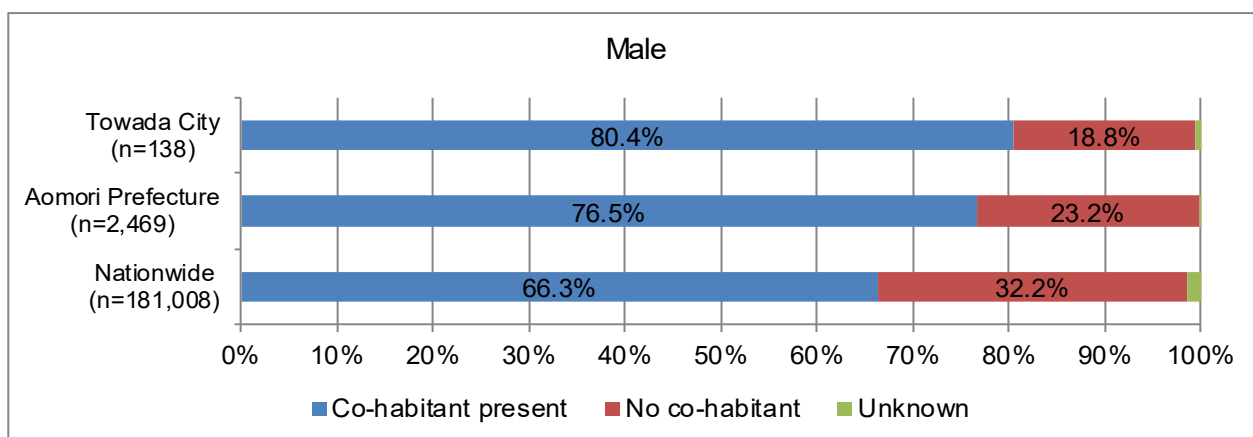
Fig. 2-11 Transition of number of deaths by suicide per 100,000 people
 "Source: Demographic statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)"

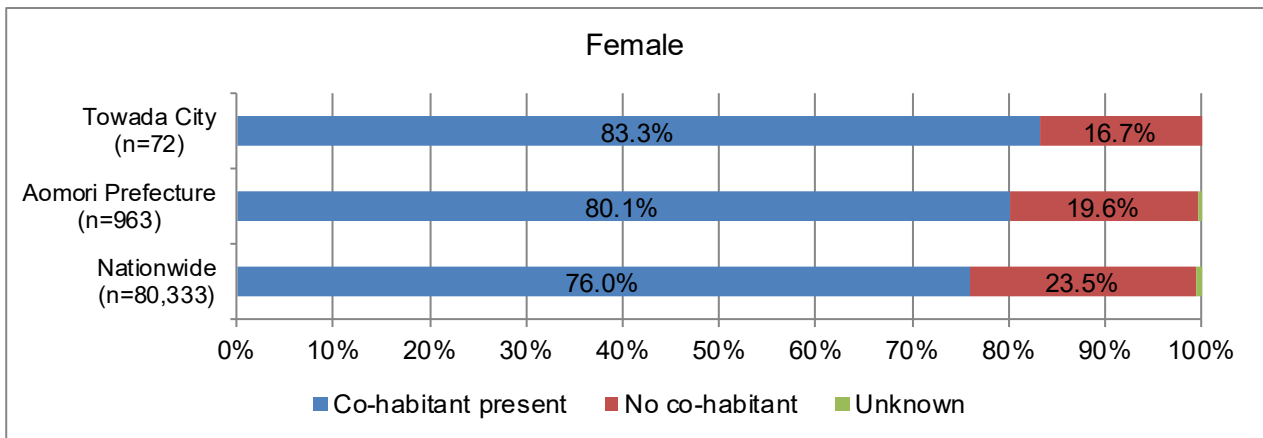


● Presence of co-habitant with suicide victim

Looking at the presence of a co-habitant with the suicide victim between 2009 and 2018, 80.4% of male victims in Towada City had a co-habitant, and 83.3% of female victims had a co-habitant. The rates for both men and women tended to be higher than national and Aomori Prefecture rates.

Fig. 2-12 Presence of co-habitant with suicide victim compared to national and Aomori Prefecture rates (2009 to 2018)
 "Source: Basic data on suicides by region (Cabinet Office)"





● Cause and motive of suicide victim

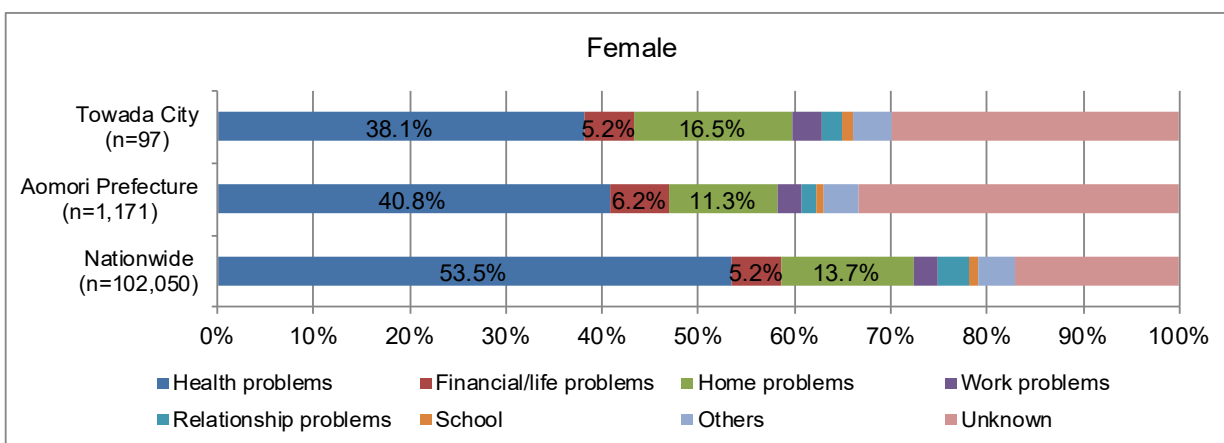
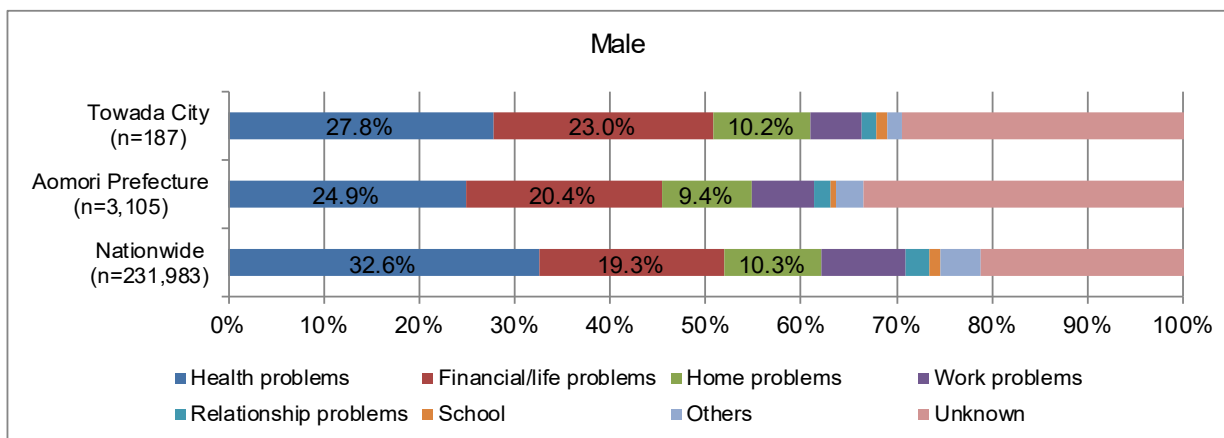
For cause and motive, health problems accounted for 27.8% of male suicide victims in Towada City, and financial and life problems accounted for 23.0% suicides. These numbers tend to be higher than Aomori Prefecture and national numbers.

For female suicide victims in Towada City, home problems accounted for 16.5%, which is higher than Aomori Prefecture and national numbers.

Fig 2-13 Cause and motive of suicide compared to national and Aomori Prefecture (2009 to 2018)

“Source: Basic data on suicides by region (Cabinet Office)”

* Up to three causes and motives are listed, so the numbers do not match the number of suicide victims.



2. Situation of Injuries

[1] Injuries Based on Emergency Transport and Medical Institution Consultation Data

To comprehend the situation of injuries and accidents sustained by citizens, from 2011 we have utilized emergency transport data provided by the Fire Department, as well as medical consultation data from medical institutions (Municipal Chuo Hospital) within an obtainable range.

Looking at the transition of injured persons, the numbers have dropped since 2011, but have remained level in recent years. In every year, “general injuries” account for more than half of the injuries, followed by “traffic accidents”. Falling (over/down) accounts for 44.4% of general injuries.

Fig. 2-14 Transition of number of injuries in Towada City (2011 to 2018)
 “Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”

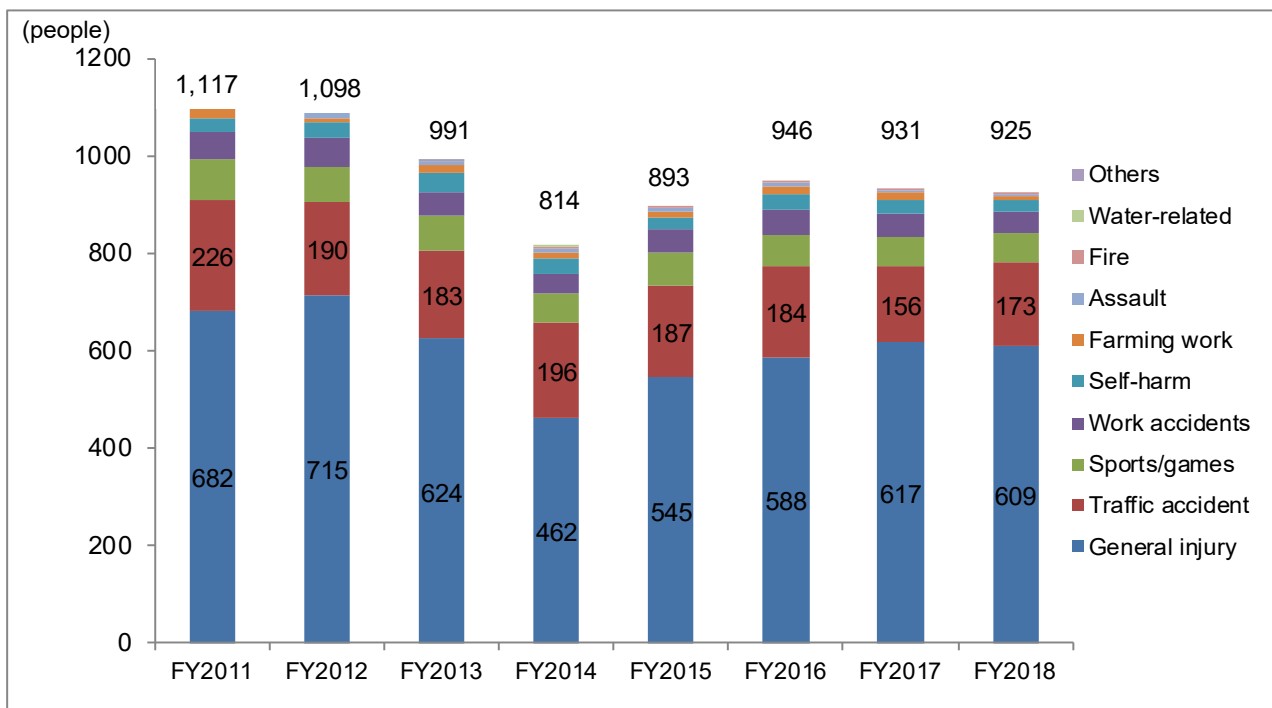
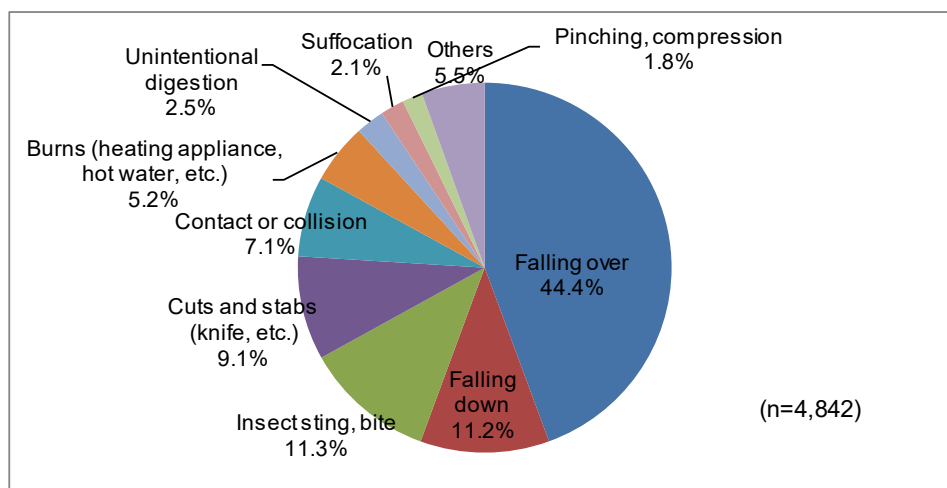
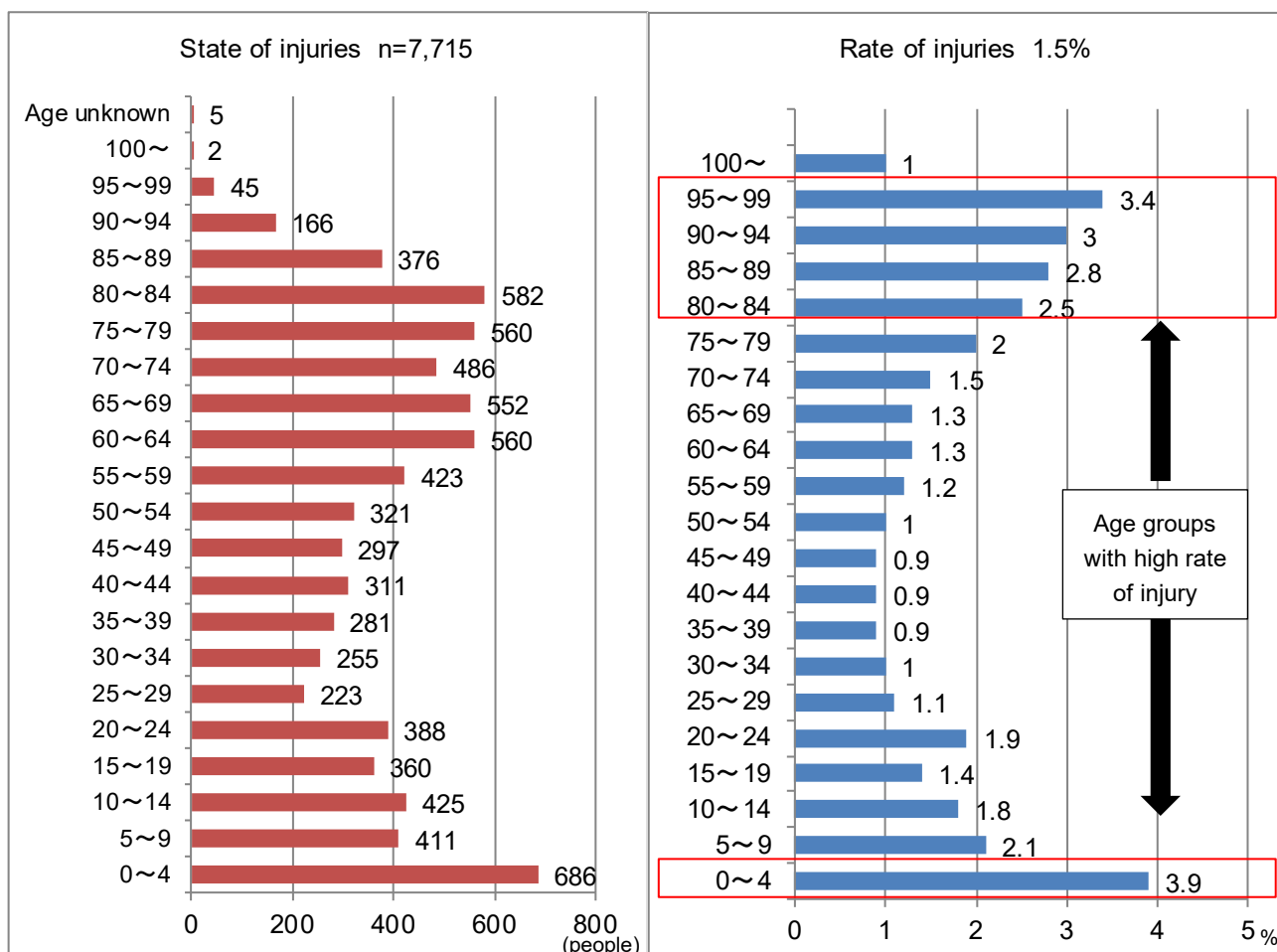


Fig. 2-15 Causes of general injuries (total for 2011 to 2018) “Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”



Looking by age group, there were 7,715 injured persons between 2011 and 2018, which is 1.5% of the city’s population. The injured persons were highest in the age 0 to 4 group and the age 60 to 84 group, and the rate of injury was highest among the age 0 to 4 group and followed by ages 80 and older.

Fig. 2-16 Number of injured persons by age group and rate of injury (2011 to 2018)
 “Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”



[Calculating the rate of injury between 2011 and 2018]

a: Number of injured persons 7,715

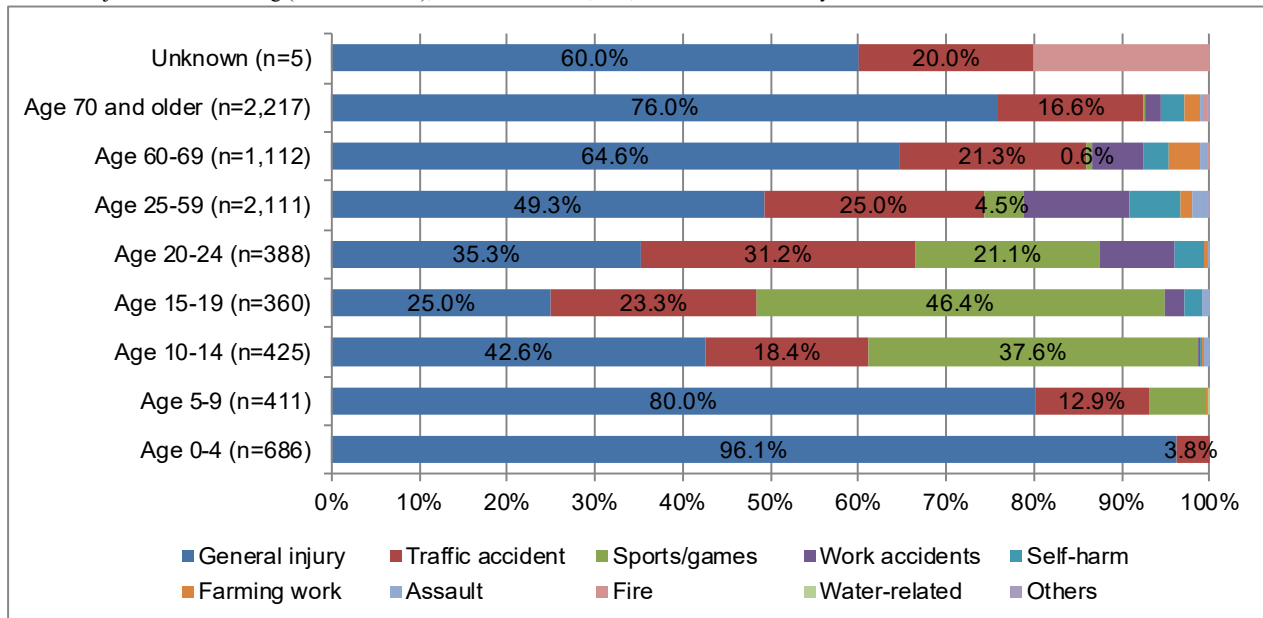
b: City population 510,661 (from 2011 to 2018 Basic Resident register, as of Sept. 30)

a/b = 1.5%

Looking at the situation of accident type by age group, the rate of general injuries for the age 0 to 9 group and age 60 and older group each account for 60% or more of the total number. In the age 10 to 24 group, injuries sustained during sports or competition is high, and traffic accidents are high in a wide range of ages over age 10.

Fig. 2-17 Number of injuries by age group and types of accidents (2011 to 2018)
 "Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"

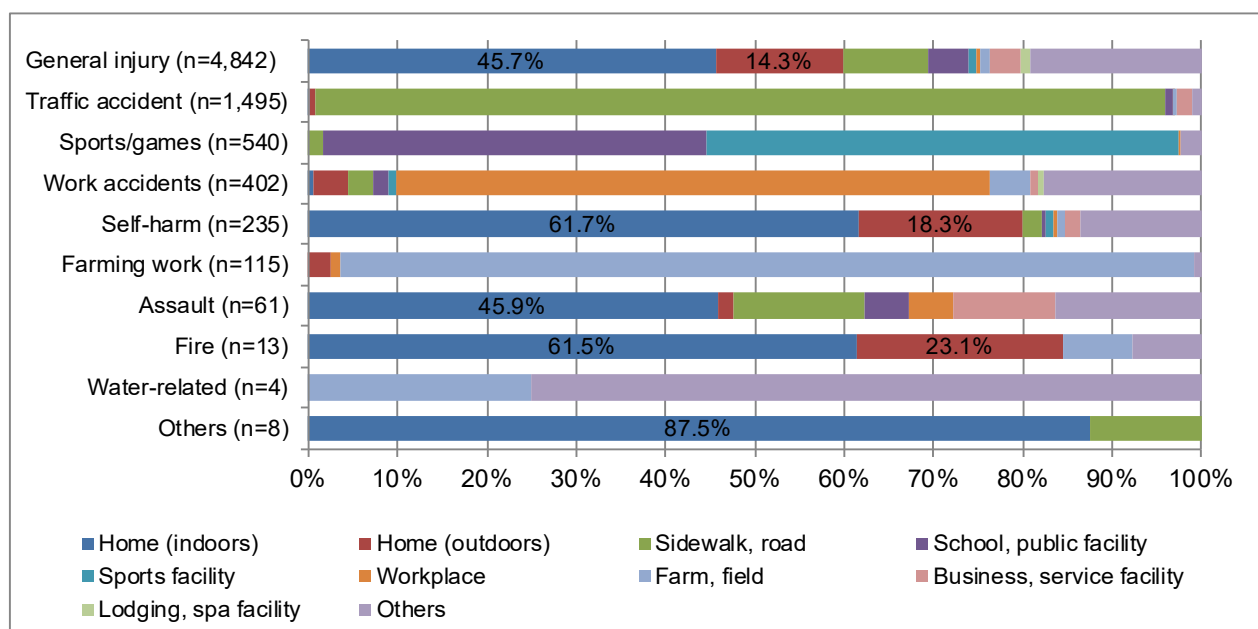
* General injuries include falling (over and down), contact and burns, etc., that can occur in daily life.



In terms of place of injury occurrence by accident type, general injuries with the highest number of injured persons were most likely to occur at home (indoors), accounting for 45.7% and then home (outdoors), accounting for 14.3%.

Home (indoors) accounted for 61.7% of self-harm incidents, and home (indoors) accounted for 45.9% of assault incidents.

Fig. 2-18 Place of occurrence and type of accident (2011 to 2018)
 "Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



[2] State of Injury among Children at High Risk of Injury

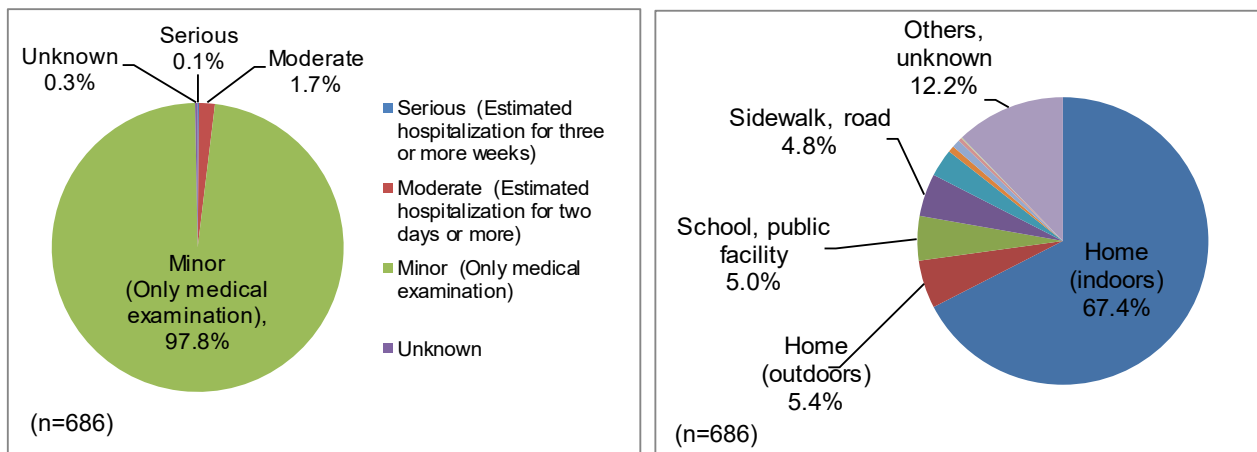
1) Ages 0 to 4 (preschool)

In ages 0 to 4 having a high rate of injury (Fig. 2-16, page 22), most of the injuries were minor, but there were some serious to moderate injuries requiring hospitalization.

Home (indoors) accounted for 67.4% of places of injury occurrence, followed by home (outdoors) at 5.4%.

Fig. 2-19 Degree of injury and place of injury in ages 0 to 4 (2011 to 2018)

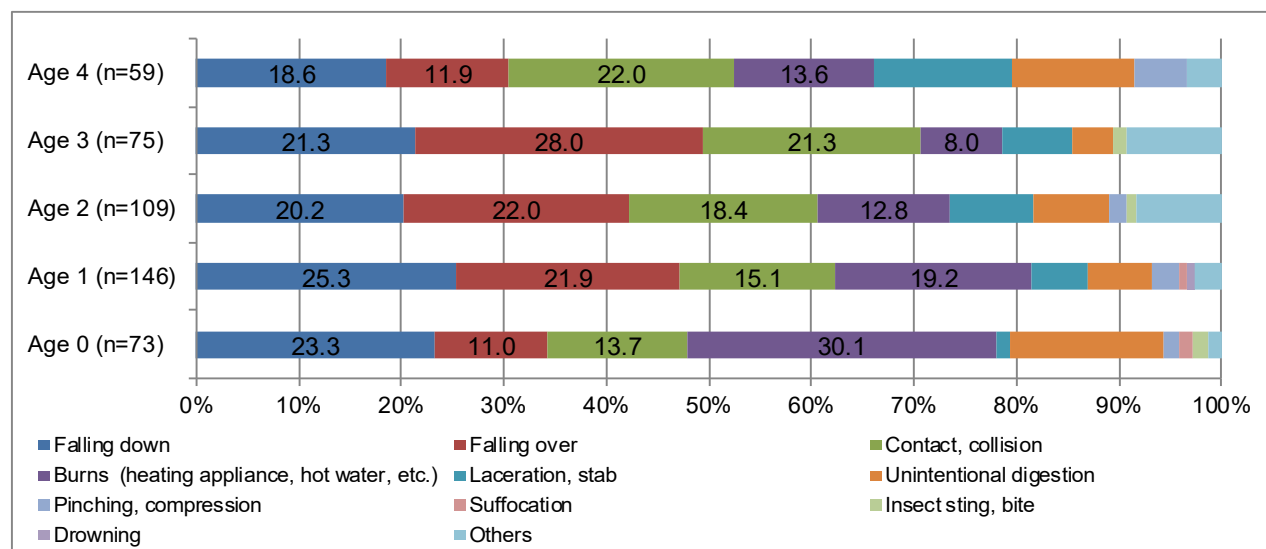
“Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”



When looking at the place of injury in the home (indoors), burns were highest (30.1%), followed by falling down (23.3%) at age 0. In ages 1 to 3, the rate of falling (over/down) was high, with injuries from contact or collision increasing with age. In ages 4, injuries from contact and collision were highest (22.0%), followed by falling down (18.6%).

Fig. 2-20 Cause of Injury at Home (Indoors) for Ages 0 to 4 (2011 to 2018)

“Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”

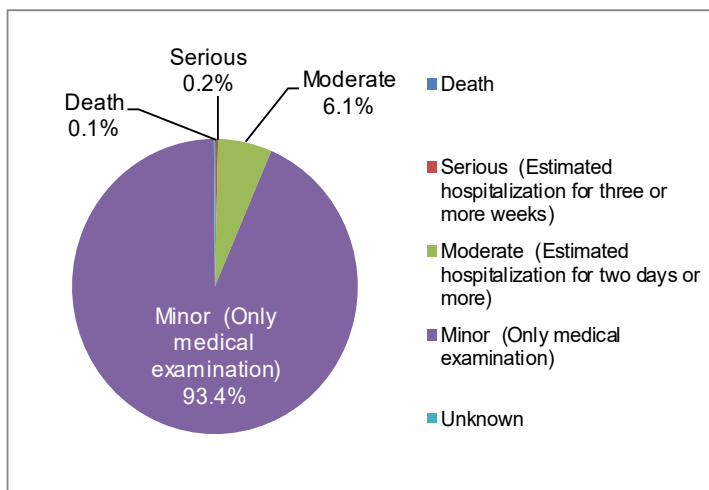
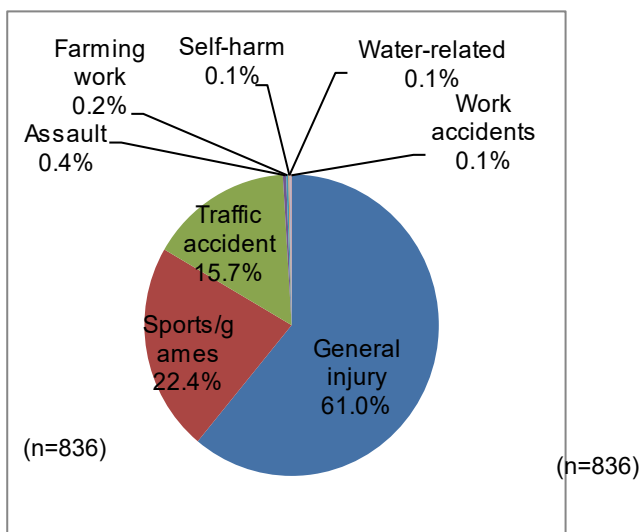


2) Ages 5 to 14

General injuries are the most common accounting for 61.0% of injuries, followed by sports and games injuries (22.4%) and traffic accidents (15.7%). Serious to moderate injuries requiring hospitalization have also occurred. Deaths were caused by water-related accidents.

Fig. 2-21 Place of injury occurrence and degree of injury in ages 5 to 14 (2011 to 2018)

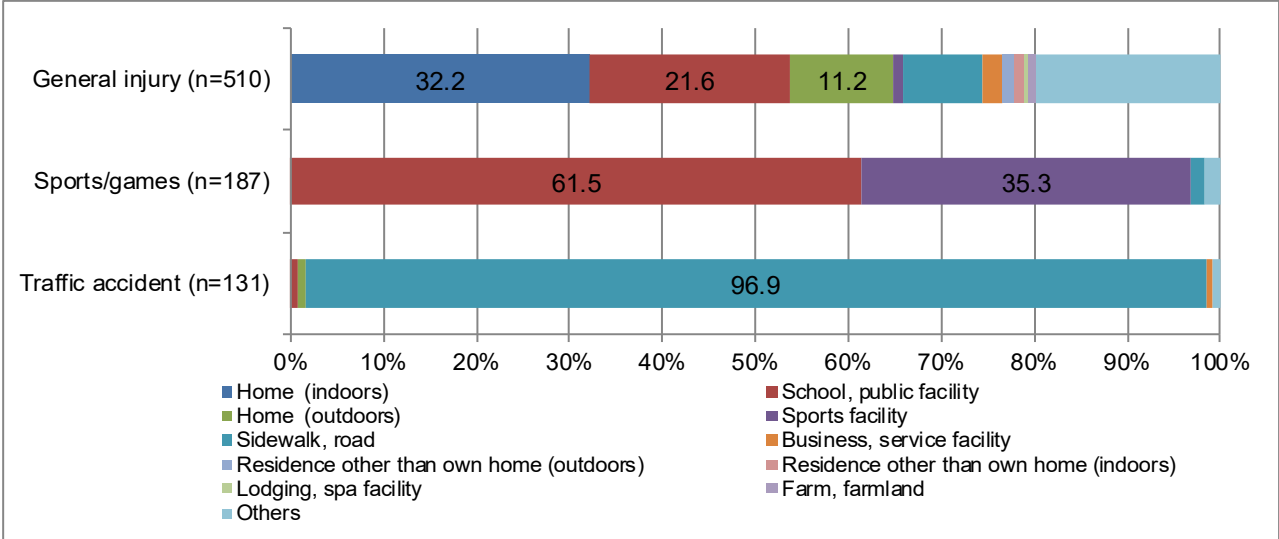
"Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



Most general injuries occur in the home (indoors) at 32.2%, followed by school or public facility at 21.6%, and home (outdoors) at 11.2%. Sports/competition injuries occur mostly at school or public facility (61.5%) or sports facility (35.3%).

Fig. 2-22 Types of accidents and place of occurrence for ages 5 to 14 (2011 to 2018)

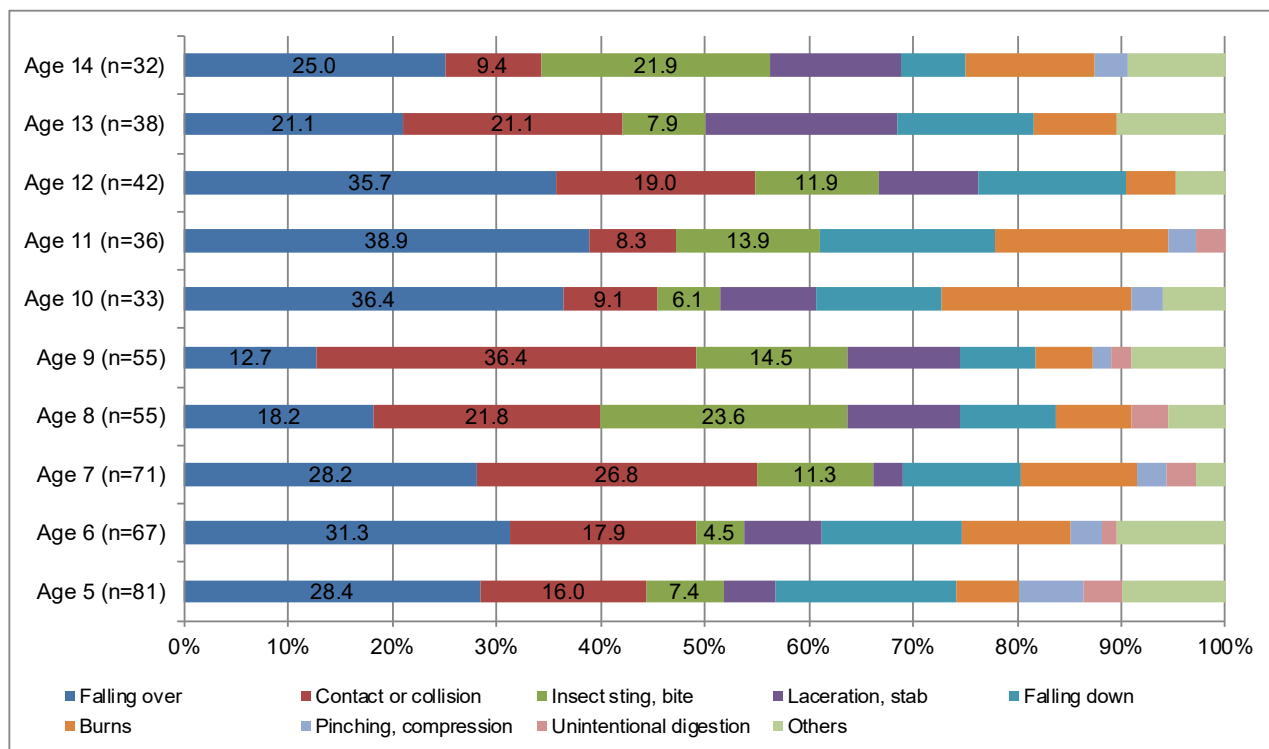
"Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



Looking at the cause of general injuries, falling over account for 36.4% of injuries by 10-year olds, 38.9% by 11-year olds, and 35.7% by 12-year olds. Injuries from contact or collision are high among ages 7 to 9.

Fig. 2-23 Cause of general injuries in ages 5 to 14 by age group (2011 to 2018)

“Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”

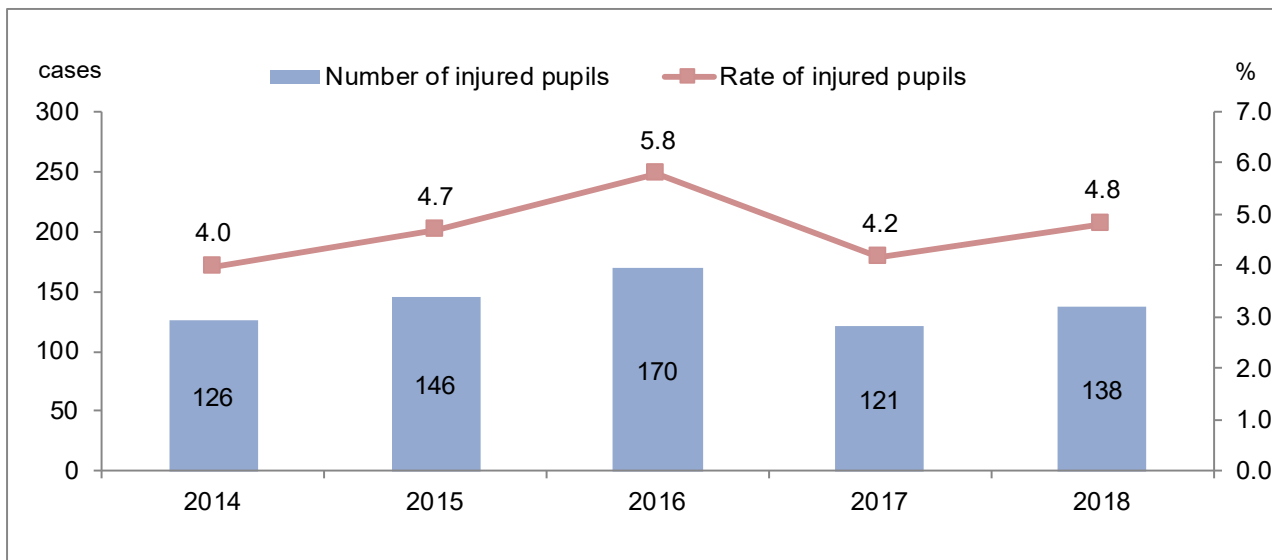


3) Injuries occurring at elementary schools

In 2018, 138 cases of injuries occurred at elementary schools. The occurrence of injuries among pupils was 4.8%.

Fig. 2-24 Number of injuries and rate of injury at elementary schools

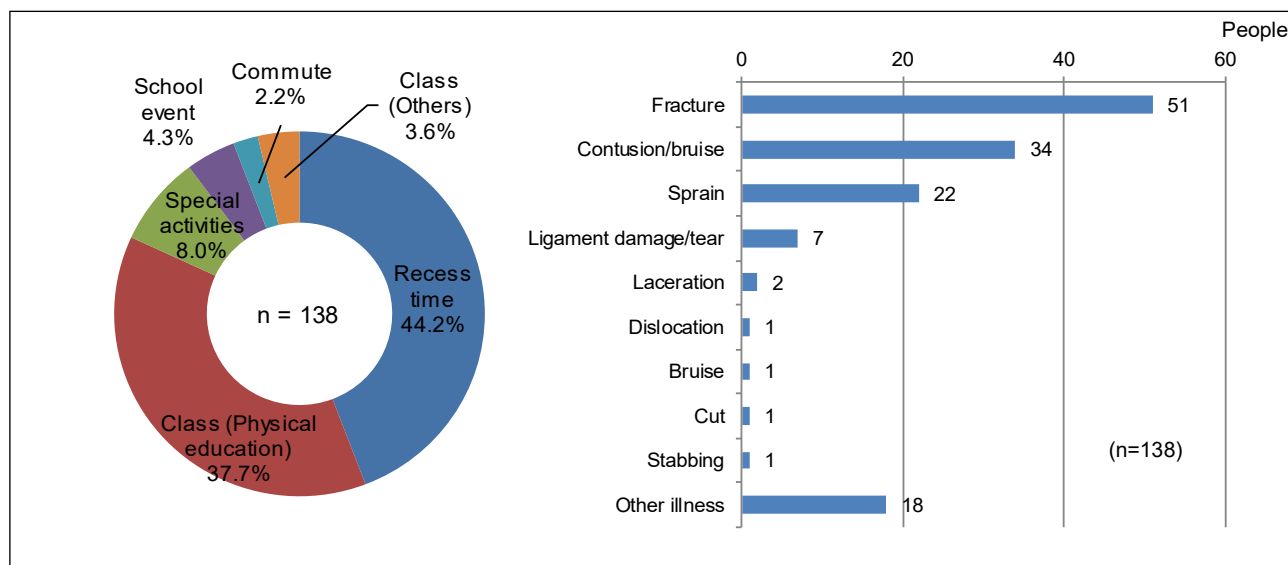
“Source: Payments made by the Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster mutual fund (Towada City Board of Education)”



44.2% of injuries occurred during recess, followed by 37.7% occurring during class (physical education). The main injuries were fractures (51 persons), and contusions and bruises (34 persons).

Fig. 2-25 State and details of injuries at elementary schools (2018)

“Source: Payments made by the Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster mutual fund (Towada City Board of Education)”

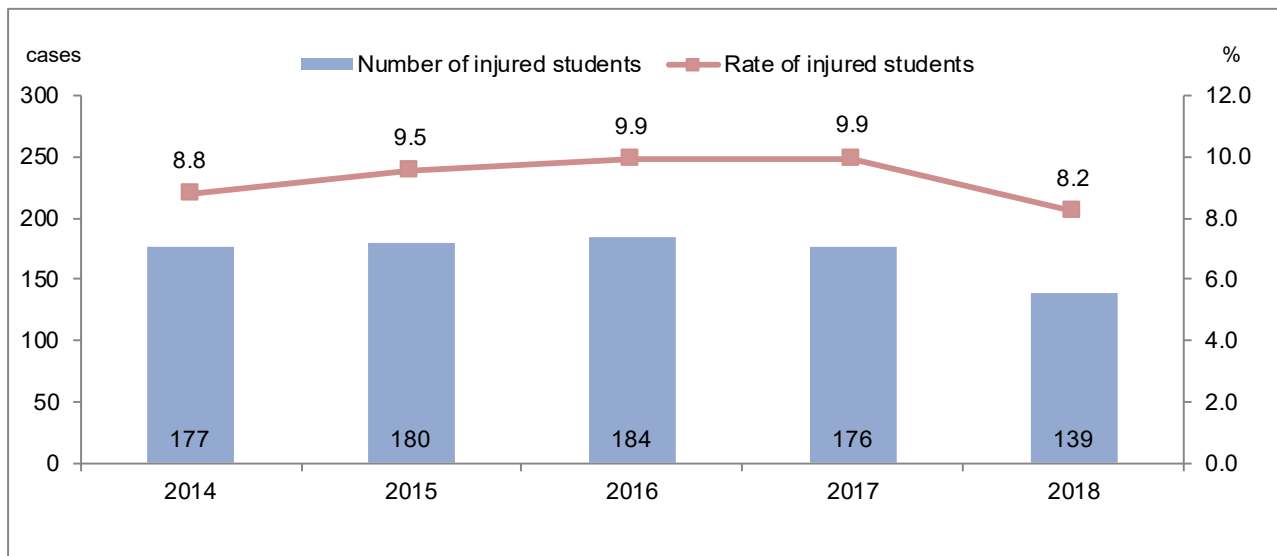


4) Injuries occurring at junior high schools

In 2018, 139 cases of injuries occurred at junior high schools. The rate of injuries among students was 8.2%.

Fig. 2-26 Number of injuries and rate of injury at junior high schools

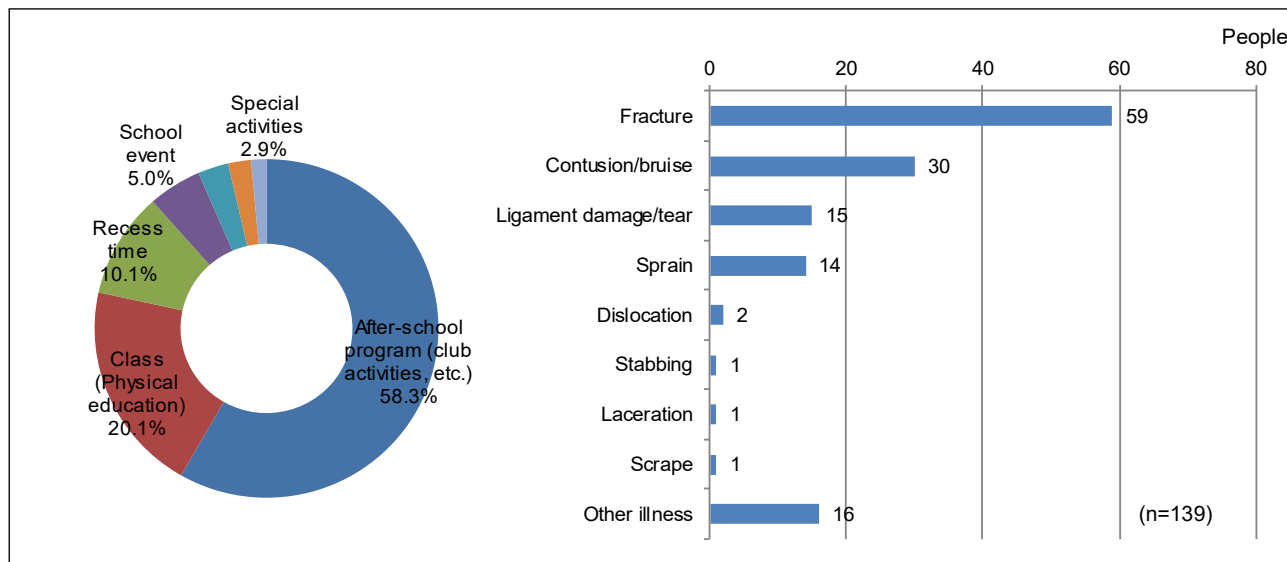
Source: Payments made by the Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster mutual fund (Towada City Board of Education)



58.3% of injuries occurred during after-school programs (club activities, etc.), followed by 20.1% occurring during class (physical education). The main injuries were fractures (59 persons), and contusions and bruises (30 persons).

Fig. 2-27 State and details of injuries at junior high schools (2018)

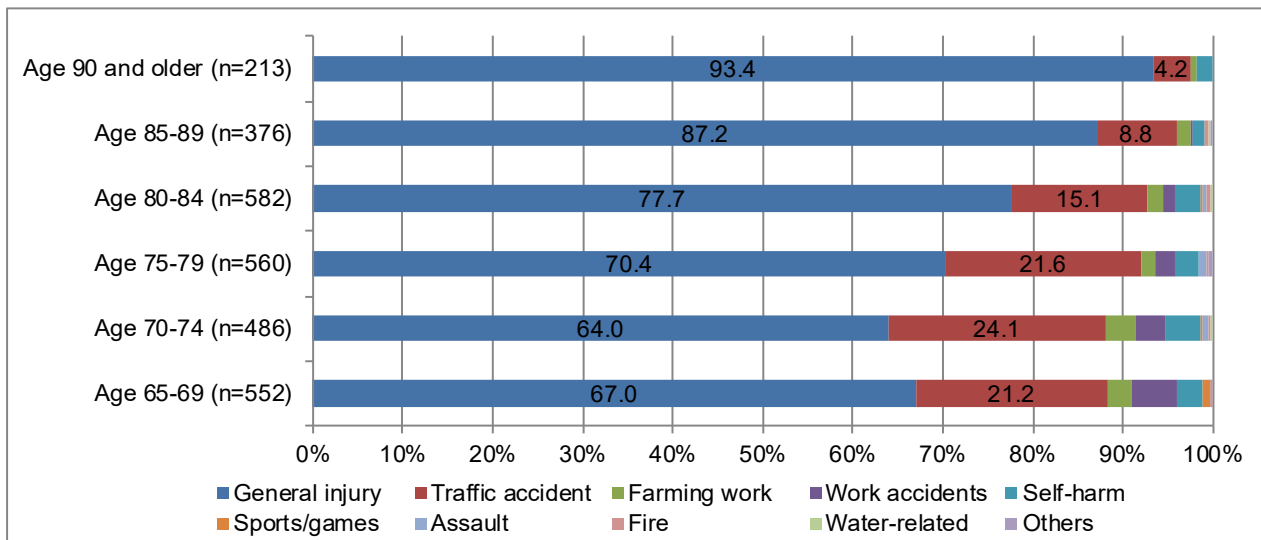
“Source: Payments made by the Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster mutual fund (Towada City Board of Education)”



[3] State of Injury among Senior Citizens at High Risk of Injury

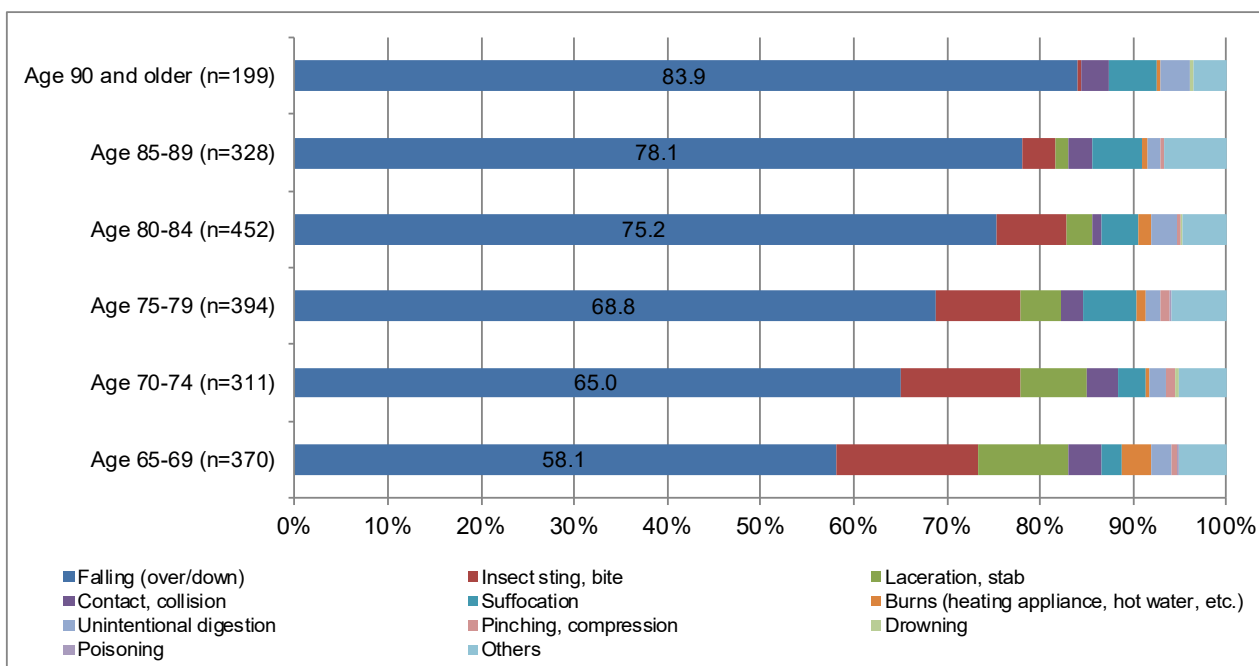
Looking at the state of injury among senior citizens by type of accident, general injuries are high in all ages, and the rate increases as the age group increases.

Fig. 2-28 Type of accident among Senior Citizens by age group (2011 to 2018)
 "Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



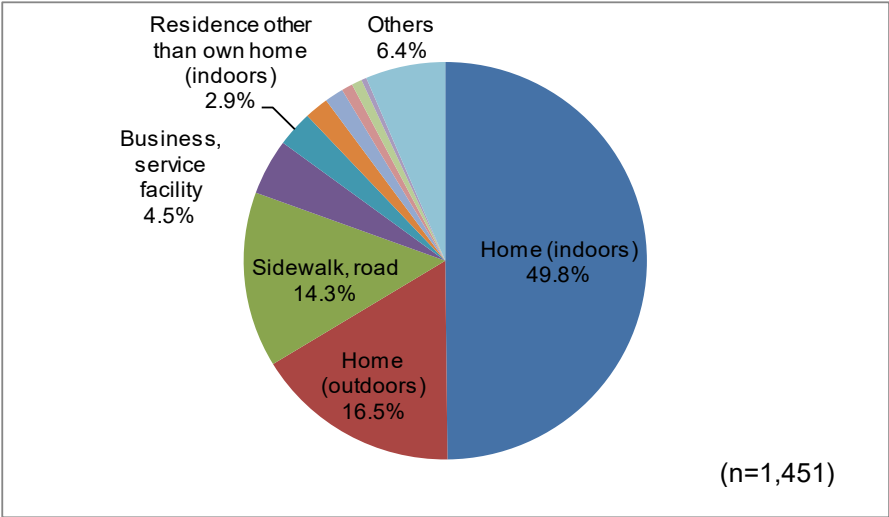
In all age groups, injuries from falling (over/down) are the highest. The rate of injury from falling (over/down) increases as the age group increases.

Fig. 2-29 Cause of general injuries among Senior Citizens (2011 to 2018)
 "Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



Falling (over and down), which lead the cause of general injuries sustained by the elderly, most often occurs in the home (indoors) at 49.8% followed by home (outdoors) at 16.5%.

Fig. 2-30 Place of general injuries "falling over and falling down" sustained by the elderly (2011 to 2018)
"Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data"



[4] Injuries at Workplace

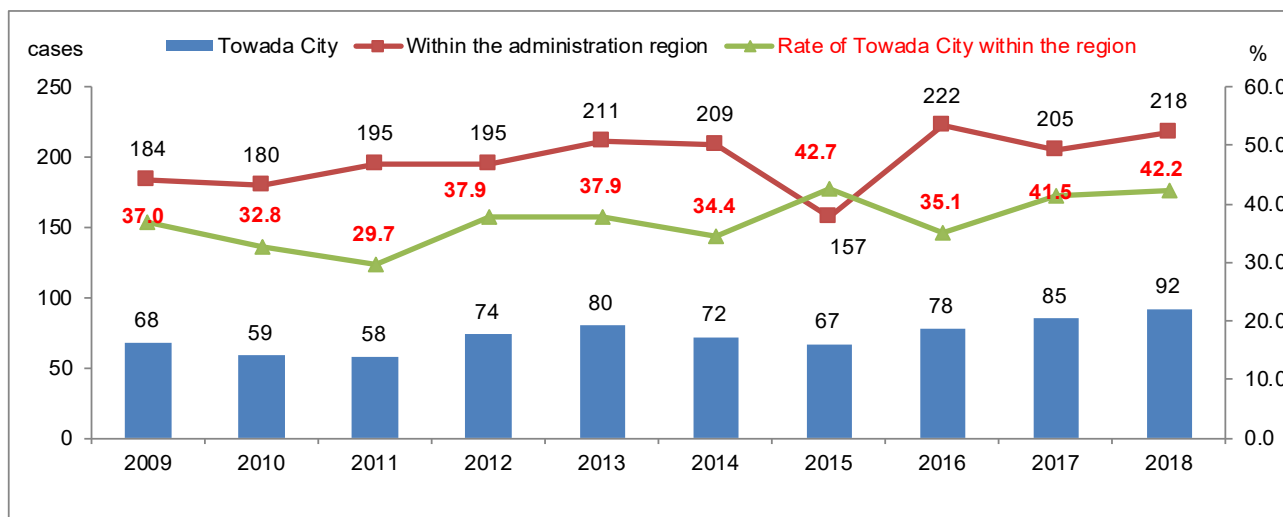
1) Industrial accidents

The number of work accidents, requiring four or more days of absence from work as stipulated by the Labor Standards Stipulation Office regulating our city, have been increasing each year. Even in our city, the number of incidents has increased from 68 in 2009 to 92 in 2018.

Fig. 2-31 State of industrial accidents within Towada Labor Standards Stipulation Office

“Source: Report on worker death, injury or illness (Four or more days absence) (Towada Labor Standards Stipulation Office)”

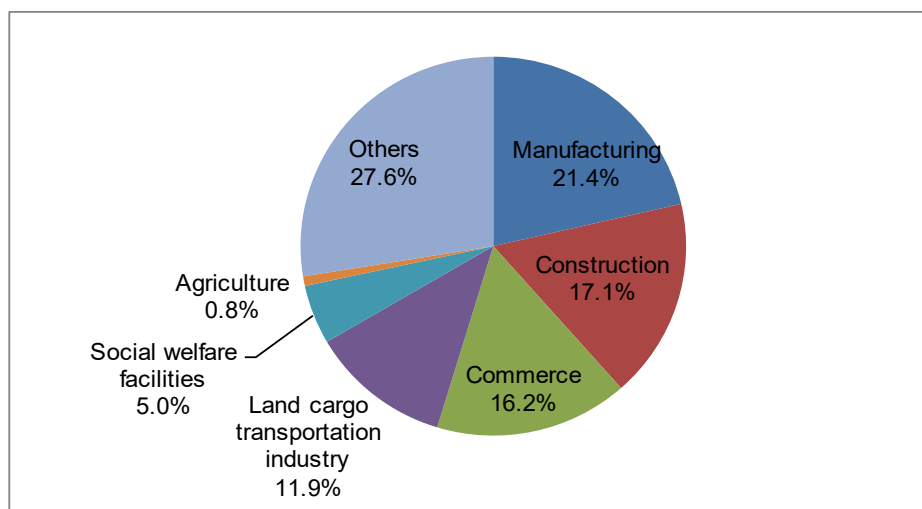
The administration region covers Towada City, Misawa City, Kamikita-gun (Excluding Yokohama-cho and Rokkasho-mura)



Looking at types of industries with work accidents, manufacturing accounts for 21.4% of accidents, construction accounts for 17.1%, followed by commerce (16.2%).

Fig. 2-32 Accidents by industry in Towada City (2009 to 2018) n= 733

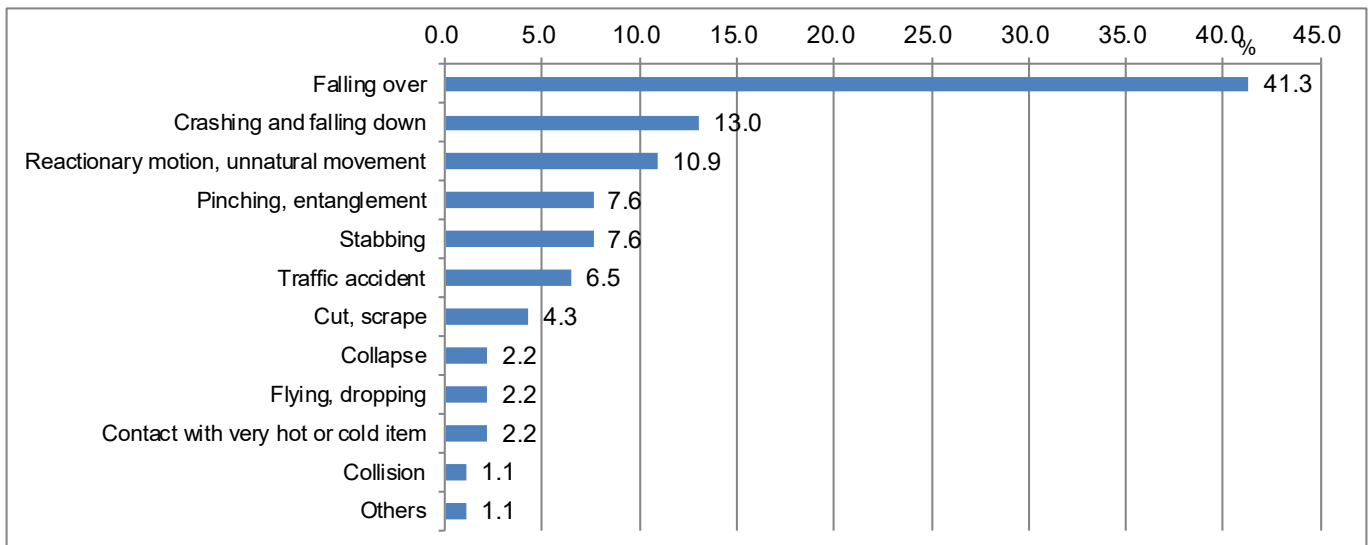
“Source: Report on worker death, injury or illness (Four or more days absence) (Towada Labor Standards Stipulation Office)”



The main cause of work accidents injuries in 2018 is falling over (41.3%) followed by crashing and falling down (13.0%).

Fig. 2-33 Cause of industrial accident injuries in Towada City (2018) n=92

“Source: Report on worker death, injury or illness (Four or more days absence) (Towada Labor Standards Stipulation Office)”



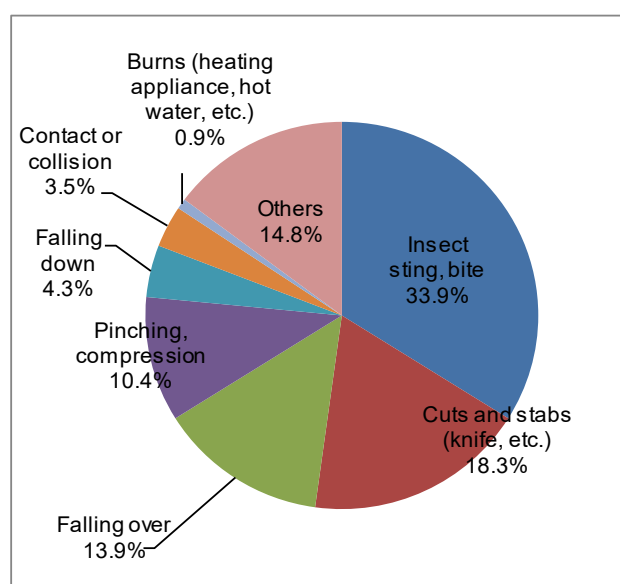
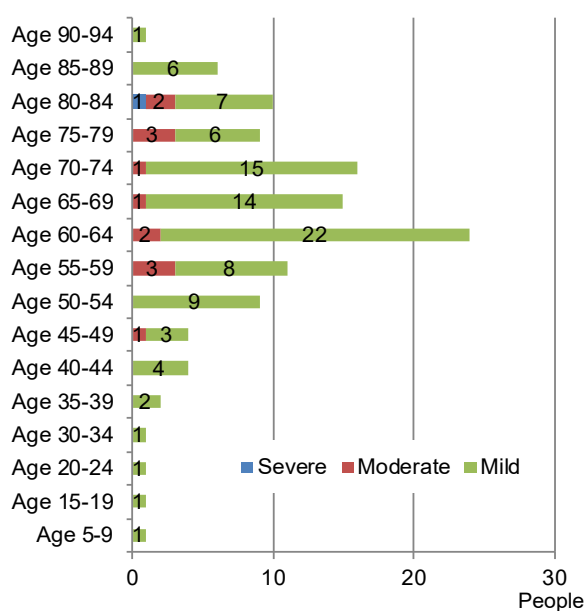
2) Injuries during farming

The number of persons engaged in farming, our city's key industry, has been declining each year. The farming population is aging, and work is being carried out by fewer persons.

Most of the persons injured during farming work are over 60 years old. The main causes are insect stings and bites (33.9%), followed by cuts and stabs (18.3%).

Fig. 2-34 Number of persons injured during framing and details of injuries (2011 to 2018) n=115

Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data



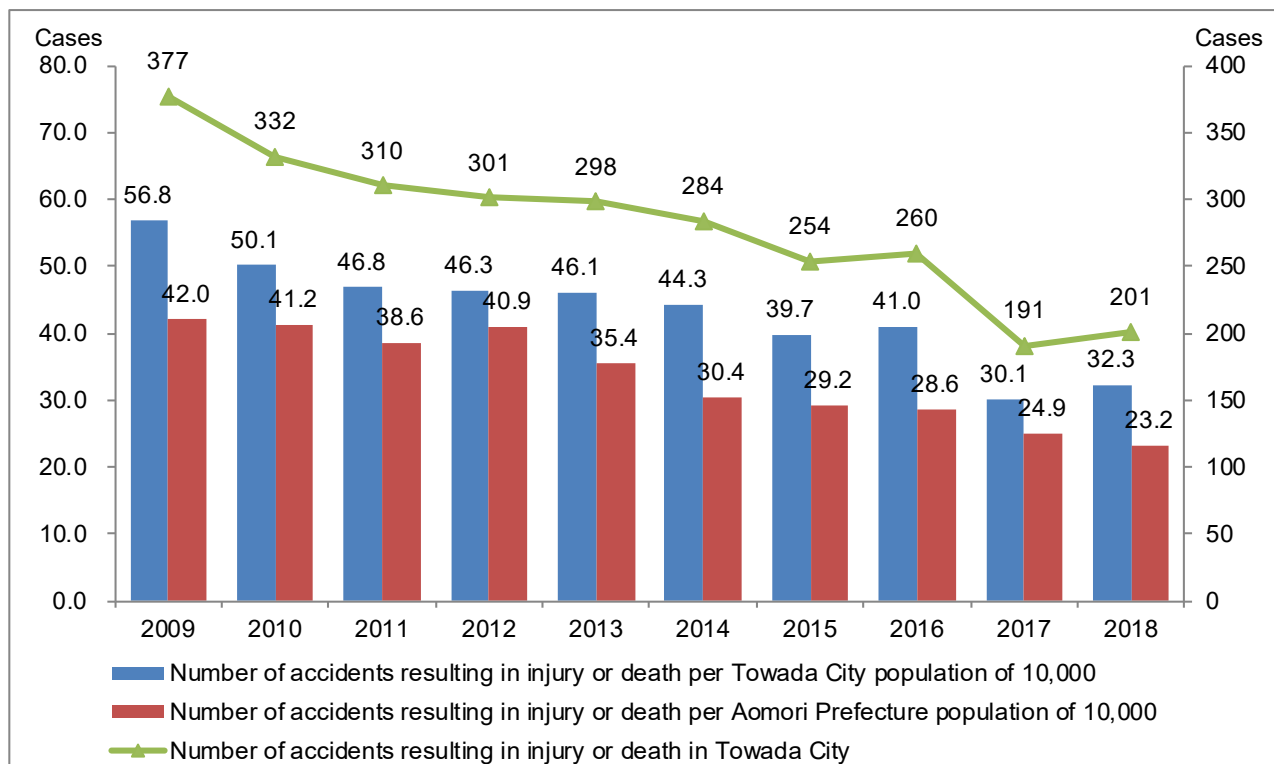
[5] Injuries from Traffic Accidents

Of the traffic accidents that occurred in our city, those resulting in injury or death have been declining since 2009.

However, when comparing the number of accidents resulting in injury or death in Towada City and Aomori Prefecture per 10,000 people, we see that the rate is high in our city.

Fig. 2-35 Number of accidents resulting in injury or death, and number of accidents resulting in injury or death per 10,000 people in Towada City and Aomori Prefecture

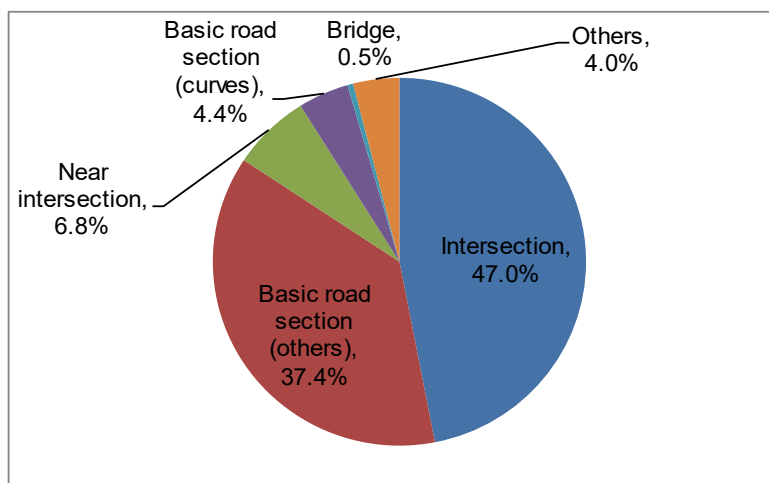
“Source: State of traffic in Towada Police Office Jurisdiction (Towada Police Department)”



When the number of accidents resulting in injury or death occurring within the Towada Police Office Jurisdiction between 2011 and 2018 are viewed by type of road, 47.0% occur at intersections and 37.4% occur at basic road sections (others).

Fig2-36 State of accidents by road type (2011 to 2018) n=2,471 cases

“Source: State of traffic in Towada Police Office Jurisdiction (Towada Police Department)”

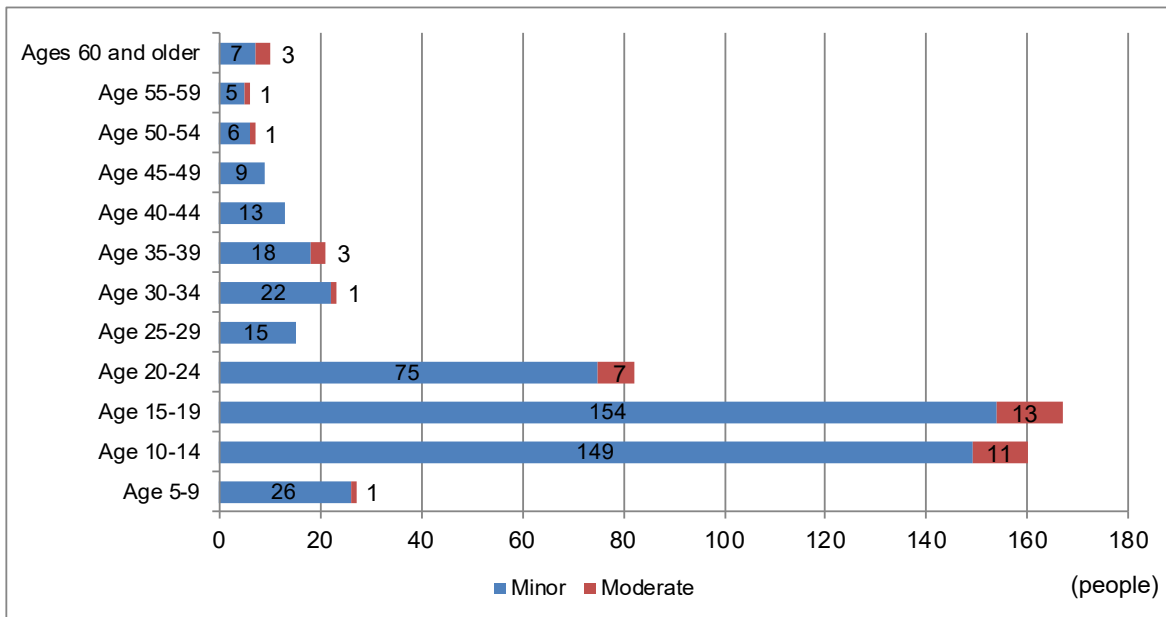


[6] Injuries from Sports and Leisure

540 persons were injured while participating in sports or competition between 2011 and 2018. By age group, 167 of those injured were ages 15 to 19, and 160 were ages 10 to 14.

Fig. 2-37 Persons injured during sports or games by age group (2011 to 2018)

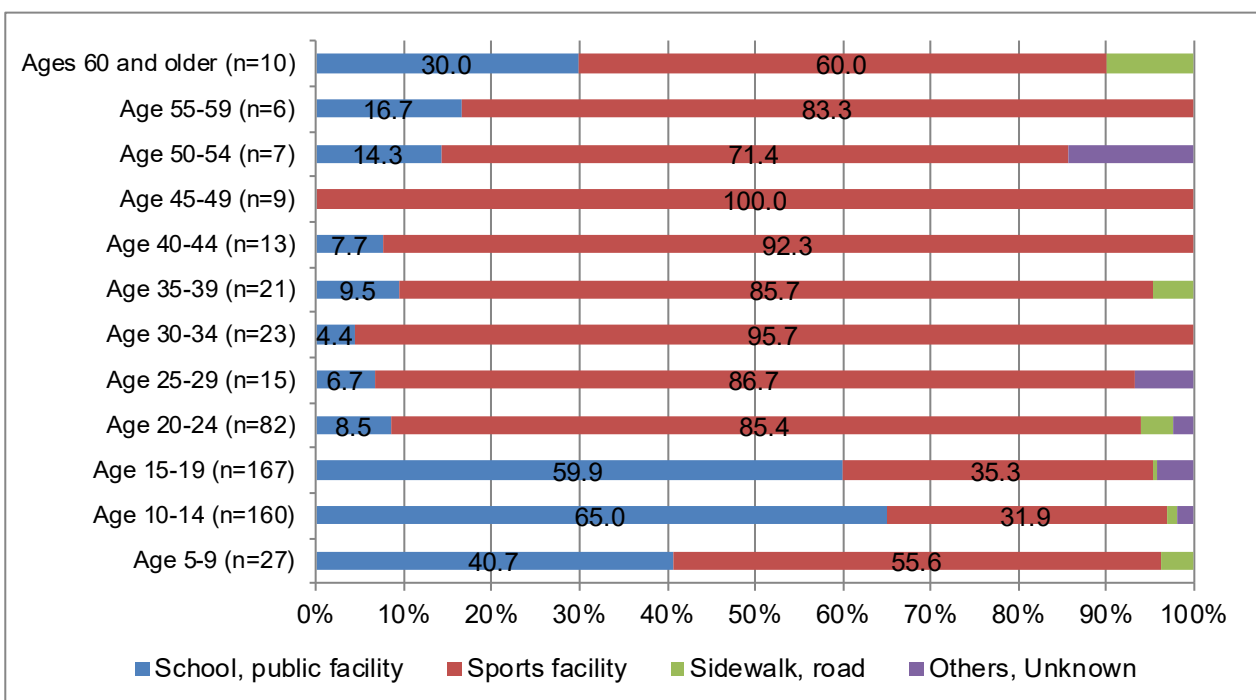
“Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”



In ages 10 to 14 and 15 to 19, most injuries during sports or competition occurred at a school or public facility. In other age groups, injuries sustained at a sports facility are higher.

Fig. 2-38 Occurrence place of persons injured during sports or games

“Source: Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data”

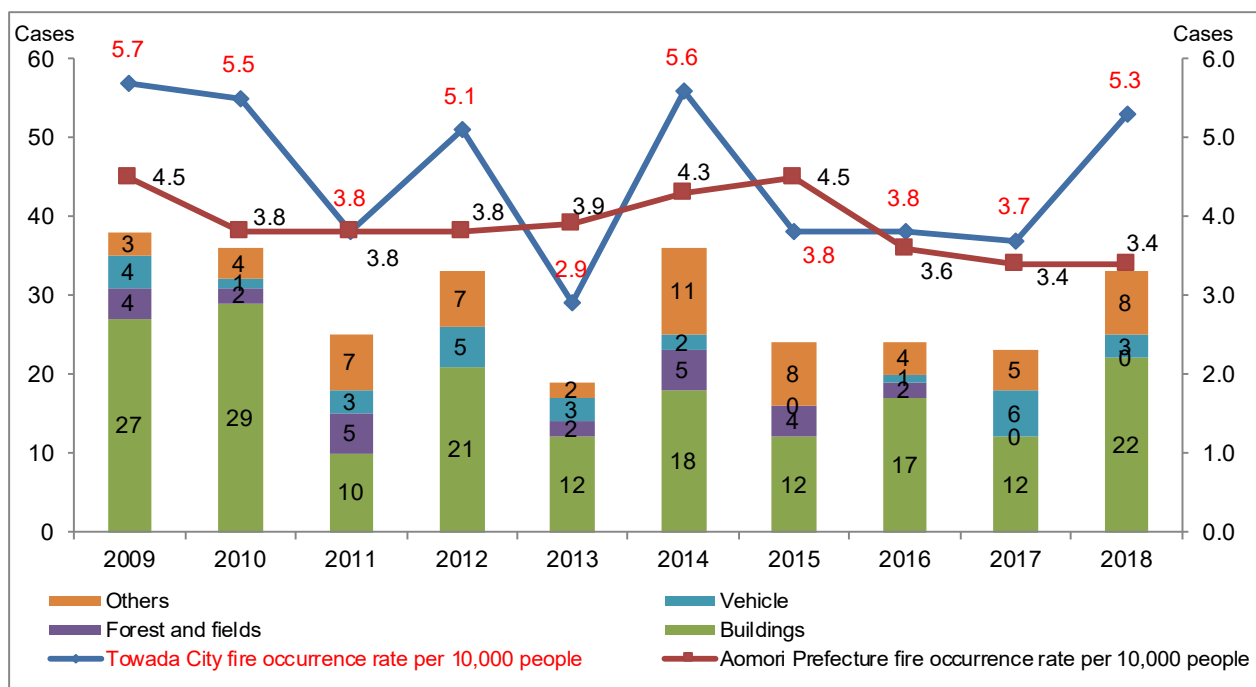


3. Situation of Disasters (Fires)

When comparing the number of fires per 10,000 people in Towada City and Aomori Prefecture, our city's numbers are higher except in 2013 and 2015. The main cause is building fires.

Fig. 2-39 Number of fires per 10,000 people in Towada City and Aomori Prefecture and cause of fire

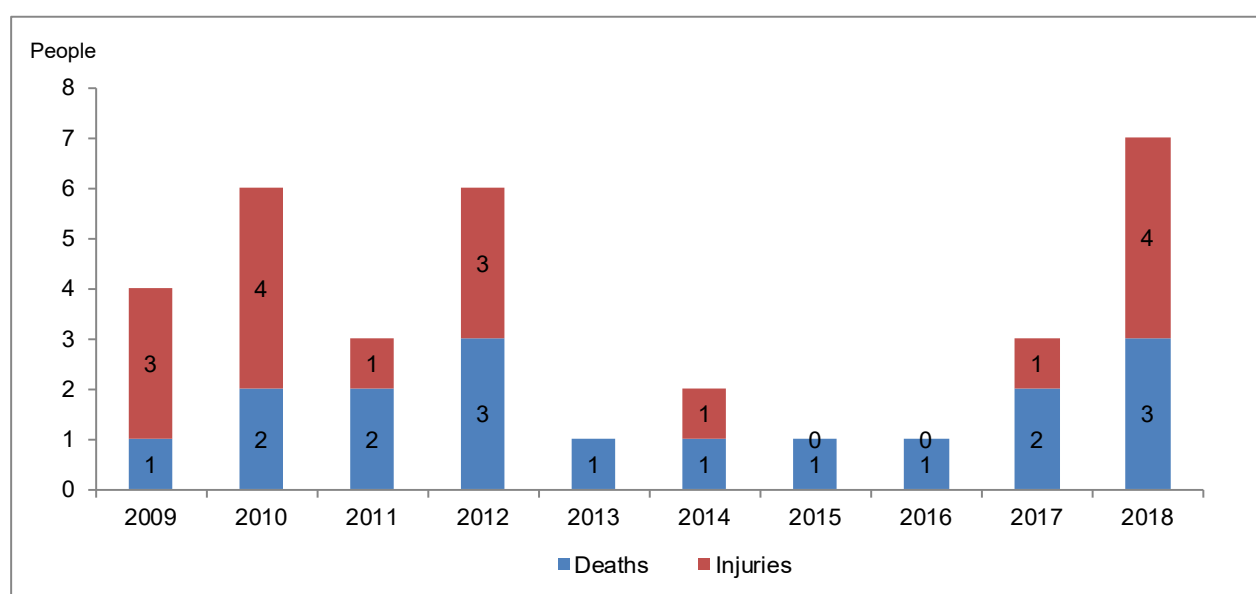
“Source: State of fires (Towada City Regional Office Association, Fire Department Headquarters)”



The number of persons injured in building fires was declining, but has been increasing in recent years. There are fatalities each year.

Fig. 2-40 Transition of deaths from building fires in Towada City

“Source: State of fires (Towada City Regional Office Association, Fire Department Headquarters)”

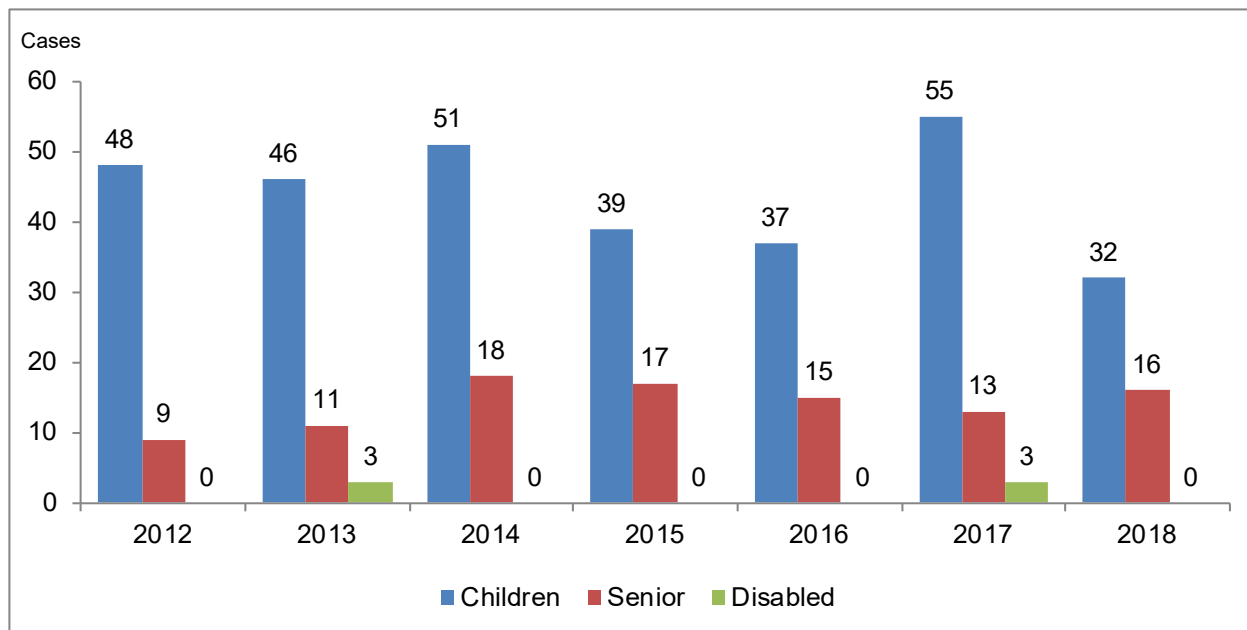


4. State of Violence and Abuse

The number of cases of abuse to children between 0 and 18 (hereafter, children) indicate the number of consultations received by Shichinohe Child Services. The number of cases of abuse to children was highest in 2017 at 55 cases, but dropped to 32 cases in 2018. The number of consultations from the elderly has remained the same.

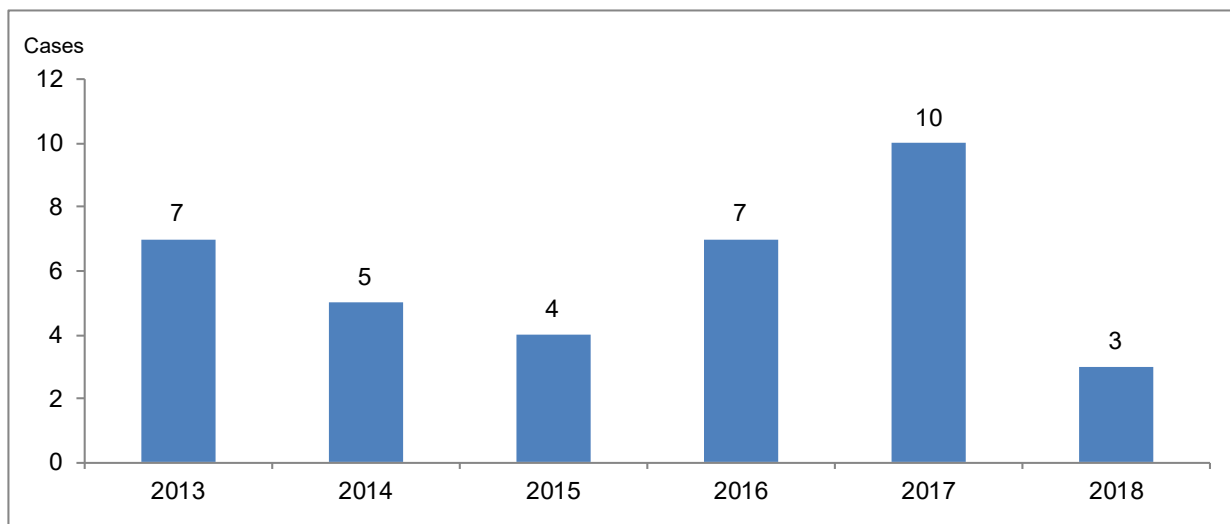
A Disabled Person Abuse Prevention Center was established in City Hall in October 2012, and the number of reported cases of abuse against disabled persons has increased since 2012.

Fig. 2-41 Transition of number of consultations regarding abuse received
 “Source: Welfare Section, Child and Childcare Support Section, Elderly Care Section”



The number of consultations regarding violence against women was high with 10 cases in 2017. This dropped to 3 cases in 2018.

Fig. 2-42 Transition of consultations regarding violence against women
 “Source: Child and Childcare Support Section”



Chapter 3 Programs Based on Seven Indicators

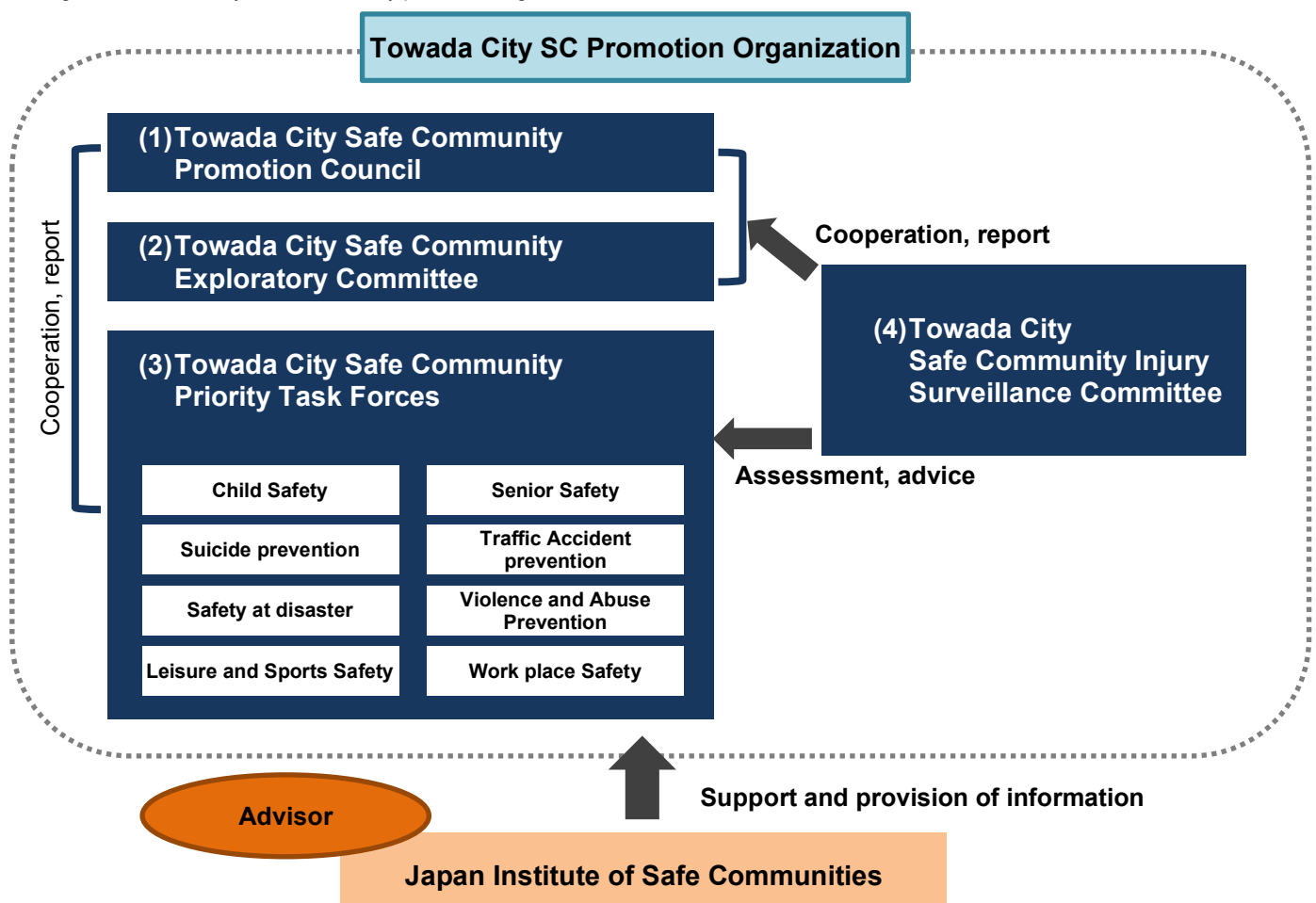
Indicator 1: An Infrastructure Based on Partnership and Collaborations, Governed by an Cross-sectorial Group That is Responsible for Safety Promotion in Their Community

[1] Towada City Safe Community Promotion Council

The "Towada City Safe Community Promotion Council" comprised of representatives from administration and citizen groups, etc., the "Towada City Safe Community Exploratory Committee" an organization in the city hall, and the "Towada City Safe Community Priority Task Forces", organizations to focus on eight priority challenges have been set to establish an organization to promote Safe Community activities through collaboration of inter-sectorial groups. In addition, the "Towada City Safe Community Injury Surveillance Committee" comprised of university professors and persons engaged in the medical profession, etc., has been established to set methods of investigating injuries, identify challenges and review evaluation methods, etc. Persons from various fields collaborate to promote preventive measures based on the Safe Community Implementation Plan.



Fig. 3-1 Towada City Safe Community promotion organization



1) Towada City Safe Community Promotion Council

In 2008, the Towada City Safe Community Promotion Council was established as the parent organization for promoting our city's Safe Community activities. The Council has 33 members from a wide range of organizations and groups engaged in safe and secure city planning, and is chaired by the mayor.

The Council has continued to hold meetings even after receiving SC designation. Issues related to Safe Community, and promotion of safe and secure city planning, etc., are discussed.



| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Council constitution | Private and community groups (12 members) | Towada Chamber of Commerce Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion Towada City Federation of Neighborhood Associations Citizen's Council for Youth Development Association NPO Towada Association for International Relations Towada City Welfare Officer/Child Welfare Officer Council Towada City Traffic City Association Towada City Social Welfare Council Towada Oirase Agricultural Cooperative Association Towada City Women's Association Towada Parent-Teacher Association Federation Towada Federation of Senior Citizen Clubs |
| | Medical related (4 members) | Towada City Municipal Chuo Hospital Towada District Medical Association Towada City Dental Association Aomori Prefecture Association of Pharmacists, Kamitosan Branch |
| | Education related (3 members) | Kitasato University School of Veterinary Medicine Towada City Association of Headmasters Towada City Board of Education |
| | Administrative agencies, etc., (14 members) | Towada Labor Standards Inspection Office Towada Police Department Aomori Prefecture Kamikita Regional Administrative Office Kamitosan Health Department Towada City Council Towada Regional Office Association Fire Department Headquarters Towada City |
| Role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Duties related to drafting Safe Community Implementation Plan ● Duties related to promotion of safe and secure city planning | |

2) Towada City Safe Community Exploratory Committee (city hall organization)

The Towada City Safe Community Exploratory Committee was established to support effective Safe Community activities by the Safe Community Promotion Council and Priority Task Forces. The committee is comprised of 14 members, and is chaired by the manager of the Department the Citizen's Affair, the department controlling Safe Community activities.



| | |
|-------------|---|
| Role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enacting draft of Safe Community Implementation Plan ● Deliberating matters related to promotion of Safe Community Implementation Plan |
|-------------|---|

3) Towada City Safe Community Priority Task Forces

Eight Priority Task Forces, comprised of community groups and administrative agencies, etc., have been set to review the details and activities of injury prevention programs being conducted for priority challenges regarding injury, etc.



<General meeting of Task Forces>



<Individual Task Force meeting>

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exchange information on injury prevention programs ● Matters related to prevention program activities based on Safe Community Implementation Plan |
|-------------|--|

◆ **Composition of each Task Force (as of July 1, 2019)** ◎Chair ○Vice-chair

A. **Child Safety Task Force (6 members)**

| Category | Group name |
|--|---|
| Private, community groups, etc. (3 members) | ◎ Towada City Childcare Research Group ○ Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion Towada City Women's Association |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Towada City Board of Education Towada City (2 members) |

B. Elderly Safety Task Force (7 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|---|
| Private, community groups, etc. (5 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> NPO Smile Labo <input type="radio"/> Aomori Prefecture Association of Architects, Towada Branch <input type="radio"/> Senior Citizen Health Facility Towada Towada Federation of Senior Citizen Clubs Towada City Social Welfare Council |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (2 members) | Towada City |

C. Suicide Prevention Task Force (10 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|--|
| Private, community groups, etc. (7 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion <input type="radio"/> NPO Smile Labo Towada Junior Chamber of Commerce Aomori Prefecture Association of Pharmacists, Kamitosan Branch NPO Smile Labo Imoda Kazushi Judicial Scrivener Office Kokoro no Kai |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Kamitosan Health Department Towada City (2 members) |

D. Traffic Accident Prevention Task Force (9 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|---|
| Private, community groups, etc. (6 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Towada City Traffic Safety Association <input type="radio"/> Towada City Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety Aomori Prefecture Cooperative of Bicycle and Light Vehicle Business Owners, Towada Branch Towada City Federation of Neighborhood Associations, Traffic Safety Working Group Three School District Youth Development Council Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Towada Police Department Towada City (2 members) |

E. Disaster Prevention Task Force (10 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|--|
| Private, community groups, etc. (7 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> NPO Smile Labo <input type="radio"/> Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion Towada City Federation of Neighborhood Associations, Community Safety Working Group Aomori Prefecture Association of Architects, Towada Branch Towada City Welfare Officer/Child Welfare Officer Council Towada City Red Cross Volunteers Towada City Association of Disaster Experts |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Towada Regional Office Association Fire Department Headquarters Towada City (2 members) |

F. Violence and Abuse Prevention Task Force (9 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|---|
| Private, community groups, etc. (4 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> NPO Smile Labo <input type="radio"/> Towada City Childcare Research Group NPO Smile Labo Towada Human Rights Advocates Council, Towada District Working Group |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (5 members) | Towada Police Department Towada City Board of Education Towada City (3 members) |

G. Leisure Activity Safety Task Force (8 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|--|
| Private, community groups, etc. (5 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Towada Oirase Tourism Bureau <input type="radio"/> Lake Towada Furusato Kasseika Public Corporation Lake Towada National Park Association Towada District Sports Promotion Council Matsuri Sou Sanbongi |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Towada Regional Office Association Fire Department Headquarters Towada City (2 members) |

H. Labor Safety Task Force (9 members)

| Category | Group name |
|--|--|
| Private, community groups, etc. (6 members) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion <input type="radio"/> Kamikita Labor Standards Association Towada Chamber of Commerce Towada Oirase Agricultural Cooperative Association Towada Junior Chamber of Commerce Towada City Association of Construction Industry |
| Administrative agencies, etc. (3 members) | Towada Labor Standards Inspection Office Towada City (2 members) |

4) Towada City Safe Community Injury Surveillance Committee

Towada City Safe Community Injury Surveillance Committee was established in 2013 to investigate and record injuries, etc., and review methods to evaluate activities. This council is the foundation of creating the injury surveillance organization.

Members include specialists from the Aomori University of Health and Welfare, with whom a support agreement is entered to promote Safe Community, as well as medical and health related administration specialists, etc.

**◆ Council composition (five members) as of July 19, 2019**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|--|
| Council constitution | Persons involved with clerical duties for emergency medicine | 1 person | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Director of Towada City Central Hospital |
| | Health related administrative agency employee | 1 person | Director of Kamitosan Health Department |
| | Fire defense related administrative agency employee | 1 person | Manager of Towada City Regional Office Association Fire Department Headquarters |
| | Experts with relative knowledge and experience | 2 persons | Aomori Prefecture University of Health and Welfare <input type="radio"/> Citizens for Towada Safe Community Promotion |
| Role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Matters related to methods of investigating and recording injuries, etc. ● Matters related to identifying challenges regarding injuries, etc., and evaluation of prevention measures ● Matters related to using results of investigations on injuries, etc. | | |

Chair, Vice-chair

Indicator 2: Long-term, Sustainable Programs Covering Both Genders and All Ages, Environments, and Situations

[1] Overview of prevention activities

The city works with various agencies and citizen groups to carry out activities to improve safety and prevent injuries.

These activities are targeted for almost all genders, ages and environments.

The main activities carried out for each age group in environments (1) to (9) are listed in Fig. 3-2. The top line indicates the number of projects for preventing accidents and injuries. The alphabet characters indicate representative activities that are introduced on the following pages.

Fig. 3-2 Overview of prevention activities (as of July 1, 2019)

| Class | | | Age group | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | Children Age 0 to 14 | Youth Age 15 to 24 | Adult Age 25 to 64 | Senior citizens 65 and older |
| (1) Accidents | [1]Home | No. of projects | 3 | 1 | 1 | 27 |
| | | Target | A, B, C | C | C | C, D, E |
| | [2]Nursery school, schools | No. of projects | 9 | 1 | | |
| | | Target | F, G | G | | |
| | [3]Workplace | No. of projects | | 8 | 8 | 2 |
| | | Target | | G, H | G, H | G, H |
| | [4]Leisure and sports | No. of projects | 9 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| | | Target | I, J | I, J | I, J | I, J |
| | [5]Traffic | No. of projects | 15 | 12 | 12 | 14 |
| | | Target | K, L, M | L, M | L, M | L, M, N |
| | [6]Public place, etc. | No. of projects | 10 | 8 | 8 | 9 |
| | | Target | O, P | O, P | O, P | O, P |
| (2) Intentional causes | [7]Suicide | No. of projects | 2 | 13 | 20 | 18 |
| | | Target | Q | Q | Q, R | Q, R |
| | [8]Violence and abuse | No. of projects | 16 | 12 | 11 | 6 |
| | | Target | S, T, U | S, T, U | U | U |
| (3) Disaster [9] | No. of projects | 15 | 23 | 27 | 24 | |
| | Target | V, W, X | V, W, X | V, W, X | V, W, X | |

* Each project is basically intended for both genders.

[2] Main Prevention Activities

(1) Activities to prevent accidents

1) Home

A: Home visit and instruction to homes with 1-month old infant

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Parents of newborn infants |
| Purpose | Prevention of accidents during infancy |
| Overview of activity | Visit parents of newborns, and prevent accidents that can occur in the home. [Achievements] Held annually; 377 people were visited in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | City Health Promotion Section, Medical Association, Towada City Central Hospital |

B: Accident prevention training for parents of infants/toddlers

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Parents of infants and toddlers |
| Purpose | Educate parents on prevention of accidents in the home, and traffic safety |
| Overview of activity | Hold seminars for parents of infants and toddlers at the 4-month, 1.5-year, and 3-year checkups, and increase awareness on preventing accidents in the home and traffic safety. [Achievements] Held annually; 4-month checkup 374 people, 1.5-year checkup 352 people, 3-year checkup 402 people in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | City Health Promotion Section, Medical Association, Dentists Association, Dentists Association, Volunteers |

C: Hands-on training for prevention of fire disasters

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Prevention of residential fires |
| Overview of activity | Hands-on training for extinguishing fires, etc., are carried out to instruct citizens on fire prevention and teach the procedures for extinguishing fires when a fire occurs. This activity aims to prevent deaths from residential fires, etc., and increase awareness on life-saving. [Achievements] Held annually; 46 sessions with 2,776 participants were held in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Towada Fire Department, Elementary and junior high schools, Nursery schools, kindergartens, Various private groups |

D: Safety class for senior citizens living alone

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Senior citizens |
| Purpose | Cavity exercise training program to prevent accidents caused by mis-swallowing |
| Overview of activity | Activity is aimed for senior citizens who are not using care-giving insurance. Participants are educated on training methods to improve living functions and prevent death by suffocation, and to support an improvement in overall mental and health condition. [Achievements] Community Iki Iki Class 354 sessions with 3,915 participants were held in FY2018 Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program 516 sessions with 404 participants were held in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | City Elderly Care Section, Home Care Support Center, Neighborhood associations |

E: Senior citizen safety mimamori cooperation group activities

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Senior citizens |
| Purpose | Ensuring of senior citizen safety |
| Overview of activity | A notification system was organized by interested groups and business, etc., to create a mimamori network. This network provides appropriate and swift response to senior citizen's emergencies, such as prevention of solitary deaths. [Achievements] 181 groups were registered as of FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Neighborhood associations, Welfare officers, Health supporters, Postal companies, Newspaper delivery companies, Electricity/gas/ waterworks, Delivery service, City Section for Elderly Safety |

2) Nursery school and schools

F: Prevention of injuries at nursery schools with Near Miss Conference

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Nursery school pupils |
| Purpose | Prevention of injuries at nursery schools |
| Overview of activity | Incidents observed by employees during school hours are confirmed and linked to prevention of accidents in the nursery school. [Achievements] Held annually |
| Organizer, participants | Nursery schools |

G: Life-saving training seminar

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Increase awareness on life saving |
| Overview of activity | AED life-saving seminars are held in schools, workplaces and public halls, etc., to increase citizens' awareness on life saving by improving the increase life-saving rate with swift responses. [Achievements] Held annually; 95 sessions held with 2,250 participants held in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Towada Fire Department, Schools, Nursery schools, Kindergartens, Care-giving facilities, Police Department, Businesses |

3) Workplace

H: Labor safety and health meeting

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Workers |
| Purpose | Prevention of workplace accidents |
| Overview of activity | To prevent accidents and injuries at the workplace, caution is promoted by collecting slogans on safety and health, and with seminars on industrial accidents. [Achievements] Held annually; 1 session with 500 participants was held in FY2019 |
| Organizer, participants | Kamikita Labor Standards Association, Labor Standards Inspection Office |

4) Leisure and sports

I: Safety inspections of tourist facilities such as ski slopes and camp sites

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | To ensure safe and secure facilities for leisure activities, etc. |
| Overview of activity | Safety inspections are conducted at leisure facilities, such as ski slopes and camp sites to prevent accidents from occurring. |
| Organizer, participants | City Tourism related sections |

J: Inspections of Oirase Keiryu Walkway, etc.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | All citizens, tourists |
| Purpose | To ensure people visiting Oirase Keiryu can have a safe and pleasant experience |
| Overview of activity | Safety of the walkway is inspected to ensure tourists visiting the tourist attraction Oirase Keiryu have a safe and pleasant experience. |
| Organizer, participants | Ministry of Environment Towada Park Ranger Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Sanpachi-Kamikita Forest Control Bureau, Sanpachi-Kamikita Forestry Management Station, City Commercial Tourism Section |

5) Traffic

K: Program to post stop marks in school routes

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Elementary school pupils |
| Purpose | Prevention of traffic accidents involving elementary school students at intersections |
| Overview of activity | A stop mark is posted at intersections along school routes in the city to make intersections more visible and prevent traffic accidents involving elementary school students. [Achievements] Held annually; 238 sheets were posted in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety, Neighborhood associations |

L: Sidewalk snow removal volunteer project

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Prevention of traffic accidents during winter |
| Overview of activity | To ensure the safety of pedestrians and children commuting to school during the winter, neighborhood associations, etc., borrow compact snow ploughs from the city or prefecture and remove snow from the sidewalks. [Achievements] Held annually; 25 groups cleared 30.5 km in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Neighborhood associations, Crime prevention associations, Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety, Traffic Safety Association, City Civil Engineering Section |

M: Activities to prevent traffic accidents by promoting caution with flags, etc.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Prevention of traffic accidents |
| Overview of activity | Flags to promote caution are presented or lent to neighborhood associations where hazards are present and traffic accidents, etc., occur. [Achievements] 120 flags in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Neighborhood associations, Police Department, City Planning Support Section |

N: Activities to promote use of reflectors

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Senior citizens |
| Purpose | Prevent traffic accidents at night |
| Overview of activity | Elders living in areas with high rates of traffic accidents are visited and presented with reflectors. Use of these are encouraged to prevent traffic accidents involving elders walking at night. [Achievements] Held annually; 817 homes visited during FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety, Traffic Safety Association, Police Department, Neighborhood associations, Senior citizen clubs, City Planning Support Section |

6) Public place, etc.

O: Inspection of park equipment, etc.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Parks, playgrounds |
| Purpose | Prevention of accidents caused by playground equipment |
| Overview of activity | Playground equipment installed at parks and playgrounds are periodically inspected and systematically repaired to prevent accidents caused by such equipment. [Achievements] Held annually; 3 inspections conducted in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Nursery schools, Elementary and junior high schools, Board of Education, City Urban Maintenance and Building Section |

P: Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) Walkway tree safety inspection

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) |
| Purpose | Prevention of accidents during park strolls |
| Overview of activity | Accidents during park strolls are prevented by inspecting the area for dead trees and branches, etc., which could fall and affect the Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) trails. [Achievements] Held annually; 1 inspection conducted in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Ministry of Environment Towada Nature Conservation Official Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Sanpachi-Kamikita Forest Control Bureau, National Parks Foundation Towada Branch, Lake Towada National Park Association, Aomori Prefecture, City Commercial Tourism Section |

(2) Preventive activities for intentional causes**1) Suicide prevention activities**

Q: Listening salon "Kokoro no Hiroba (communication salon) Lupinas"

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Suicide prevention |
| Overview of activity | Citizen groups and citizens trained in listening hold a listening salon to help create a healthy mental health. Visitors can have private consultations or talk with others at this salon. [Achievements] Held annually, 23 sessions with total 90 participants were held in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Volunteers from the Residential Nurse Tomoshihi Kai, Kokoro no Kai, Mental Health Welfare Volunteer Koma no Kai and Anemone, Health specialists |

R: Free consultations for debts and mental health

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Adults, senior citizens |
| Purpose | Suicide prevention |
| Overview of activity | Lawyers, scribes, mental health welfare specialists and health specialists, etc., form a team to provide comprehensive support for paying off debts, mental care and rebuilding life. [Achievements] Held annually, 2 sessions with 12 participants were held in FY2018 |
| Organizer, participants | Lawyers, Scribes, Mental health welfare specialists, Health specialists |

2) Activities for prevention of violence and abuse

S: Child abuse prevention network

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Children and students age 18 or younger |
| Purpose | Prevention of abuse |
| Overview of activity | The Committee for the Promotion of Measures for Aid-requiring Children was established. Discussions and information exchanges were held with related agencies to set measures for preventing child abuse. The committee aims to watch and support aid-requiring children, and to provide quick identification and response to child abuse. [Achievements] In FY2018, 12 staff conferences, 5 meetings to review individual cases, and 53 consultations were handled |
| Organizer, participants | Welfare Office, Child Services, Health Department, Police Department, Medical Association, Schools, Nursery schools, Kindergartens, Welfare officers, Social Welfare Council, City Child and Childcare Support Section |

T: JUMP team activities for youth crime prevention

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | Elementary and junior high students |
| Purpose | Prevention of delinquency, elimination of bullying |
| Overview of activity | As activities to prevent delinquency and eliminate bullying both in and out of school, friends and community members promote youth delinquency prevention and increase general awareness. [Achievements] In FY2018, 16 schools had Little JUMP teams, and 10 schools had JUMP teams |
| Organizer, participants | Elementary and junior high schools, Neighborhood associations, Police Department |

U: Consultation services by counselors

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | Children and students under age 18, women, senior citizens |
| Purpose | Prevention of abuse, and resolution of problems women face |
| Overview of activity | A consultation service for abuse, parenting and problems women face has been opened to provide swift response. Support by women and home/child consultants is available, and counselors are assigned to local elementary and junior high schools. [Achievements] In FY2018, counseling about aid-requiring children: 53, counseling about women: 62, counseling about city education: 42 |
| Organizer, participants | Welfare Office, Welfare officers, Social Welfare Council, Long-term Care Insurance businesses, Medical institutions, Schools, City Hall's Welfare Section |

(3) Disaster prevention activities

V: Towada City general disaster prevention drills and Voluntary Disaster prevention drills

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Prevention of accident damage |
| Overview of activity | The prefecture, city, Fire Department, Self Defense Forces, related business, etc., cooperate and carry out hands-on drills at parks, schools, and rivers in preparation for large-scale disasters. Voluntary fire corps and neighborhood associations also carry out voluntary disaster drills in preparation for disaster damage. [Achievements] In FY2018, the Towada City General Disaster Prevention Drill was held with 500 participants, Voluntary disaster prevention drills were held 2 times with 64 participants |
| Organizer, participants | Self Defense Forces, Aomori Prefecture, Fire Department, Voluntary fire corps, Fire Equipment Maintenance Association, Police Department, Gas/electricity/water suppliers, Red Cross volunteer groups, schools, Disaster prevention groups, City Hall's related sections |

W: Disaster prevention maps and disaster prevention hazard map

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | All citizens, each neighborhood association |
| Purpose | Prevention of accident damage |
| Overview of activity | A disaster prevention map was prepared to prepare for disasters and inform people of evacuation centers. A hazard map for flooding and landslide damage, etc., was prepared to inform people of hazardous areas and evacuation centers, and to prepare for emergencies such as disaster response. [Achievements] In FY2013, disaster prevention maps were distributed to 27,000 households, Landslide damage hazard maps were distributed to 115 neighborhood associations |
| Organizer, participants | Neighborhood associations, Fire Department, City Hall's General Affairs Section |

X: Provision of disaster information with Komaran e-mail (E-mail information provision system)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Target, etc. | All citizens |
| Purpose | Provision of information in emergencies |
| Overview of activity | Emergency information on disasters and crime prevention, etc., is distributed using cellular phones and personal computers. [Achievements] As of March 31, 2019 2,947 persons were registered |
| Organizer, participants | Neighborhood associations, Fire Department, City Hall's General Affairs Section |

Indicator 3: Programs That Target High-risk Groups and Environments, and Programs That Promote Safety for Vulnerable Groups.

[1] Positioning of High-risk Groups and Environments

Towada City has designated the groups and environments at a high risk as follows. The background of the designation and measures taken are introduced in this section.

| Class | Description |
|-------------|---|
| Group | (1) Foreign nationals (residents and foreign tourists) (2) Children and senior citizens who are being abused (3) People with disabilities (4) People contemplating suicide (5) Elders with higher rate of injury from falling, etc. |
| Environment | (6) City intersections with many traffic accidents (7) Roads around Lake Towada and Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream) |

[2] Activities for High-risk Groups and Environments

1) Foreign nationals (residents and foreign tourists)

(1) Background of high-risk designation

As of March 31, 2019, there were 308 registered foreign nationals living in our City.

Many are from Asian countries with Vietnamese accounting for 26.3%, followed by Koreans (18.9%), and Filipinos (16.6%).

The number of foreign tourists has been increasing every year. Comparing 2013 and 2016, the number of foreign lodgers increased approx. 6-fold. However, it is difficult to ascertain the situation of injuries by foreign residents and tourists in the city, and characteristic tendencies of injuries have not been identified. Due to differences in language and customs, it is difficult to accurately convey information to foreign nationals in the event of disasters and emergencies. This group has been set as a high-risk group as there is a possibility that such persons will be put at risk.

The City has implemented various programs so that foreigners can received the same services and living information, etc., regarding safety and security as available to Japanese.

Fig. 3-3 Number of registered foreigners
"Source: Community Services Section survey"

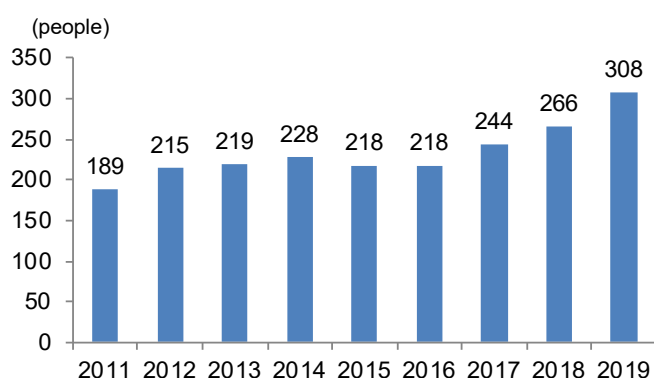


Fig. 3-4 Registered foreign nationals by country
"Source: Community Services Section survey"

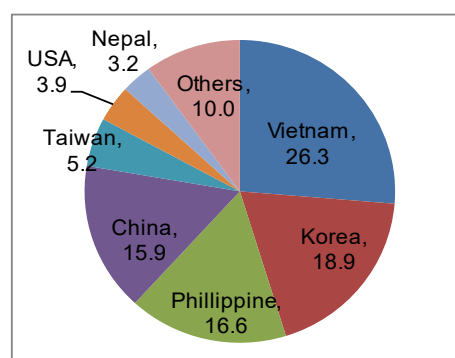
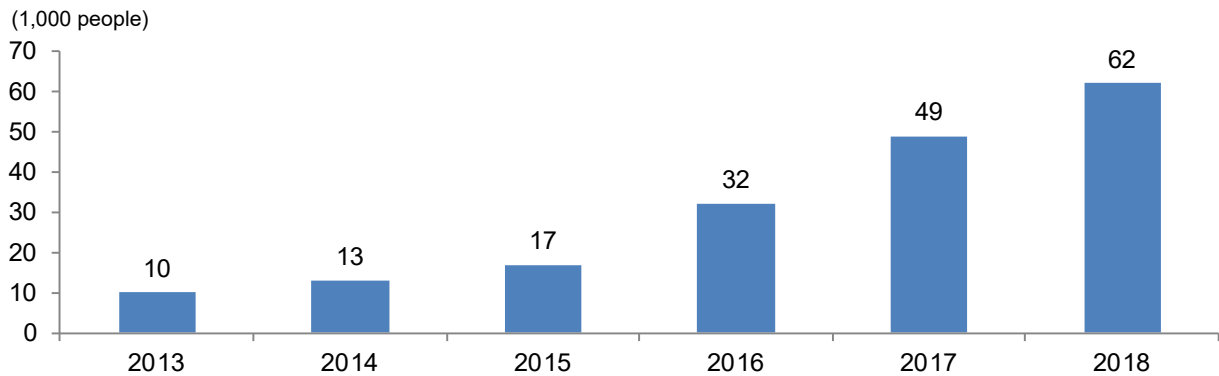


Fig. 3-5 Transition of number of foreign lodgers

“Source: Tourism Section survey”



(2) Programs for foreign nationals

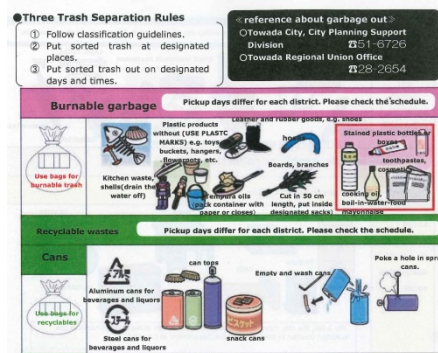
Programs for foreigners residing in Towada City

“Disaster Prevention Points”, a pamphlet introducing actions to take in the event of an earthquake or fire and information on emergency preparations, is handed out to foreigner that have moved to our city and to foreign tourists.

The city works together with the Towada Association for International Relations to publish the periodic multi-language citizen information magazine "Harmony". Information related to daily life is provided in English, Chinese and Korean. “Harmony” is published on the City’s website, etc.



“Disaster Prevention Points”



Example of information published on City’s website
[How to put out garbage]

2) Children and senior citizens who are being abused

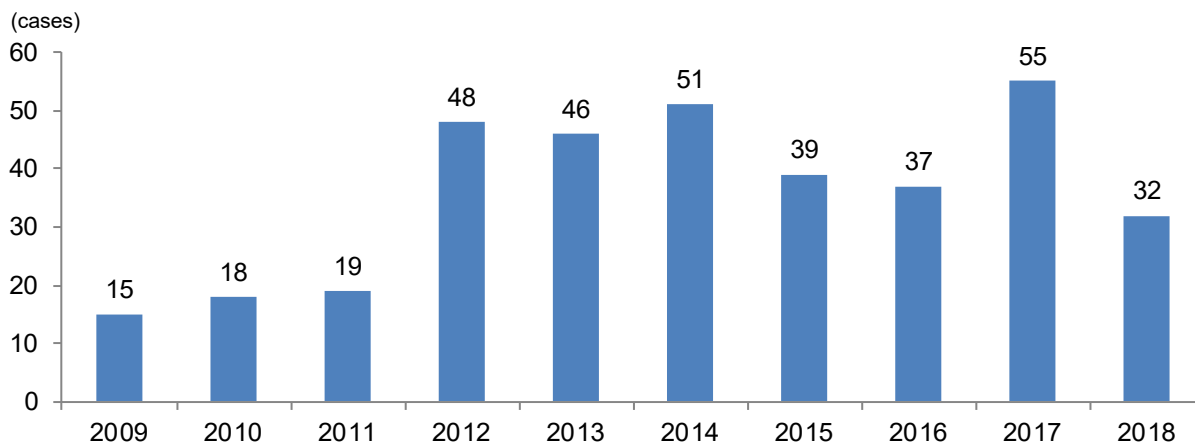
(1) Background of high-risk designation

There are cases where abuse victims cannot talk about their situation, and they tend to keep such abuse to themselves. This group has been set as a high-risk group because it is difficult for children and senior citizens abuse victims to escape on their own, and it is difficult for a third party to understand the situation.

(1)-1 State of children who are being abused

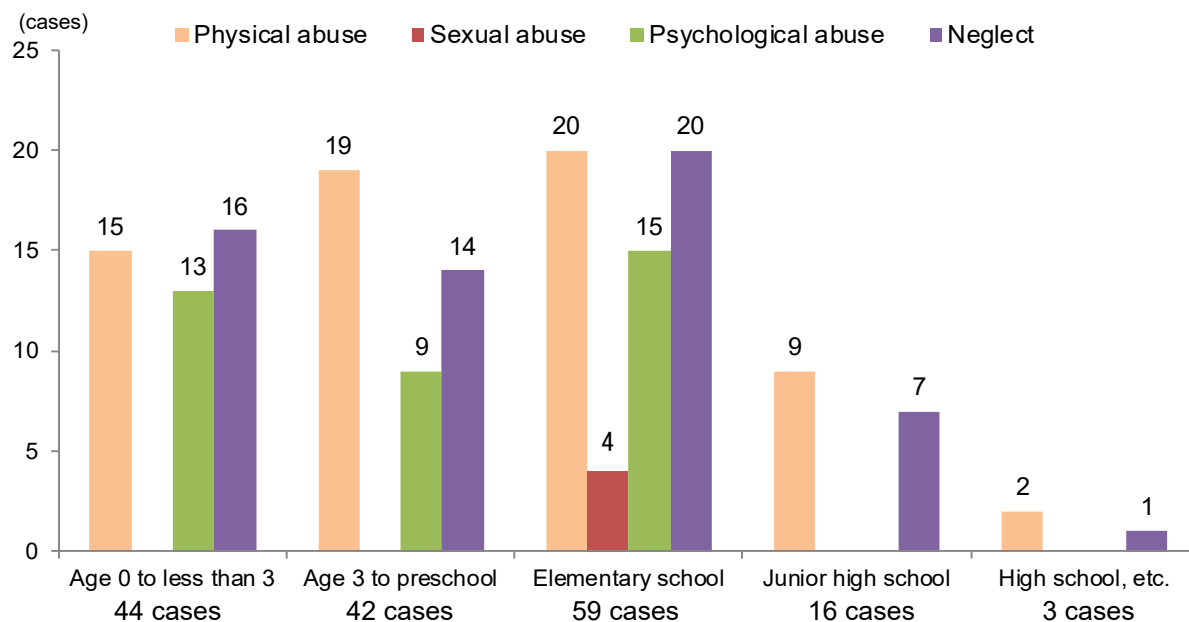
The number of consultations regarding children being abused has been increasing since 2012. The number of cases differs by year, but generally 30 to 55 cases are received each year.

Fig. 3-6 Number of consultations regarding child abuse “Source: Child and Childcare Support Section, Shichinohe Child Services”



Physical abuse was the most common, with 65 cases. In terms of age group, abuse was highest from age 0 to elementary school age children.

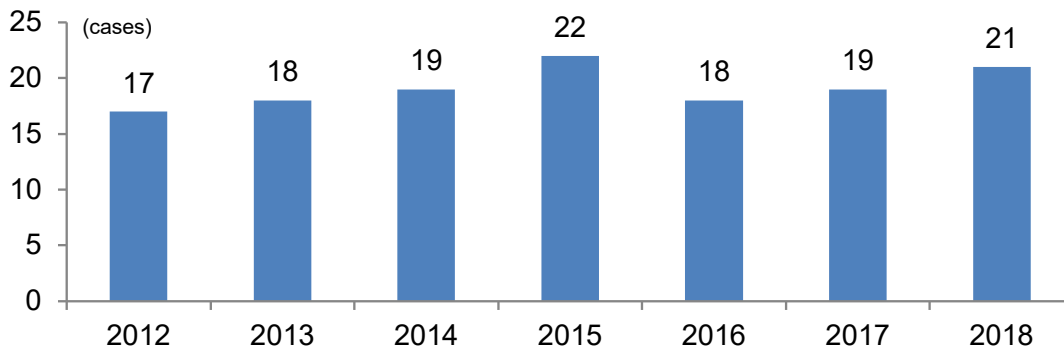
Fig. 3-7 Type of Abuse toward Children (2009 to 2018) “Source: Towada City Women’s Consultation Center data”



(1)-2 State of senior citizens who are being abused

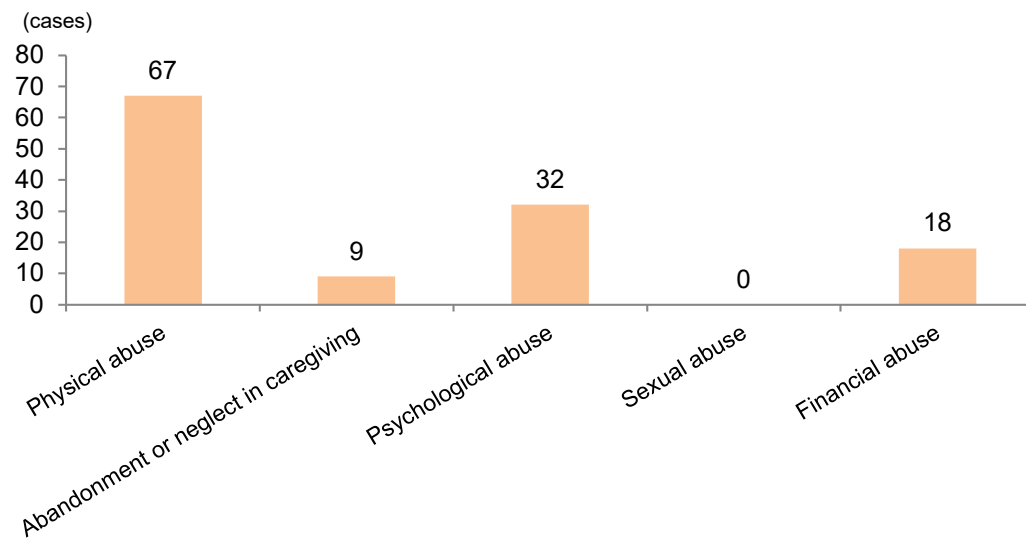
The number of consultations regarding elder violence and abuse remains the same.

Fig. 3-8 Number of consultations regarding elder abuse "Source: Elderly Care Section survey"



Physical abuse was the most common, followed by psychological abuse. We have concerns that the number of abuse cases will increase as aging advances in the city.

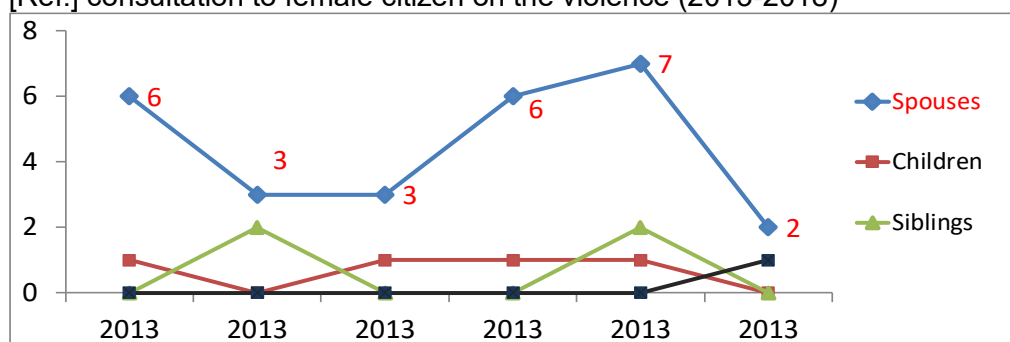
Fig. 3-9 Types of Senior Citizen abuse (FY2012 to 2018) "Source: Elderly Care Section survey"



【Note】 Abuse (Domestic Violence)

Although there are not many cases of abuse reported in our city, we have identified some cases and consolation on violence from their intimate partners are provided to the citizens.

[Ref.] consultation to female citizen on the violence (2013-2018)



* intimate partners include both genders

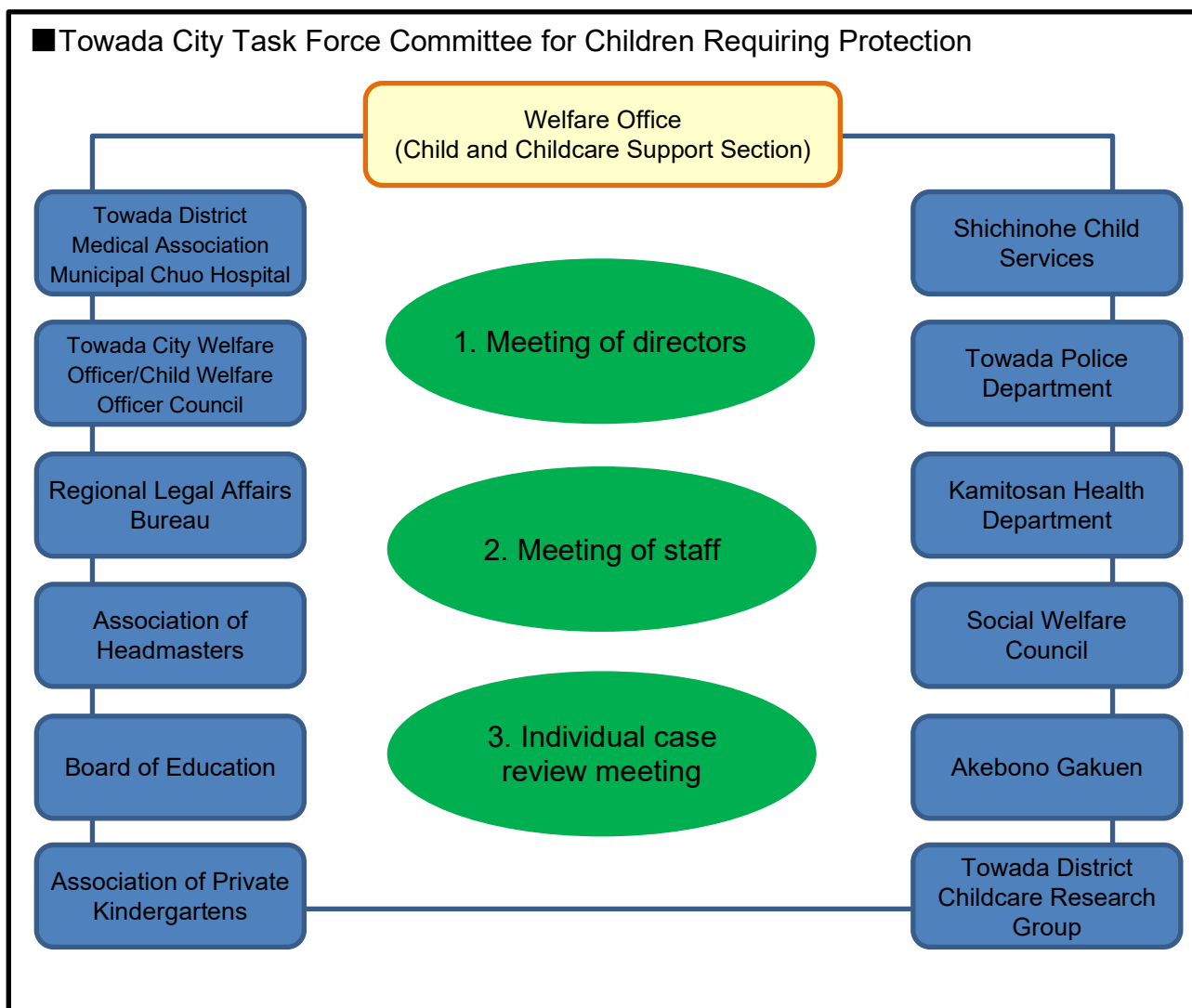
Source: research by the division of child support, Towada City

(2)-1 Programs for children who are being abused

A. Child Abuse Prevention Network (Organizer: Towada City Task for Children Requiring Protection)

A Child Abuse Prevention Network has been established in cooperation with administration, Police Department, Medical Association and schools, etc. This network aims to identify and protect children because of abuse or neglect due to parent's disinterest, etc. Support is also provided for the parents and specific pregnant women.

Fig. 3-10 Child Abuse prevention network



The Task Force is comprised of the Director Committee, Staff Committee and Individual Case Committee. Each committee acts appropriately according to each case of abuse. The main functions are listed below.

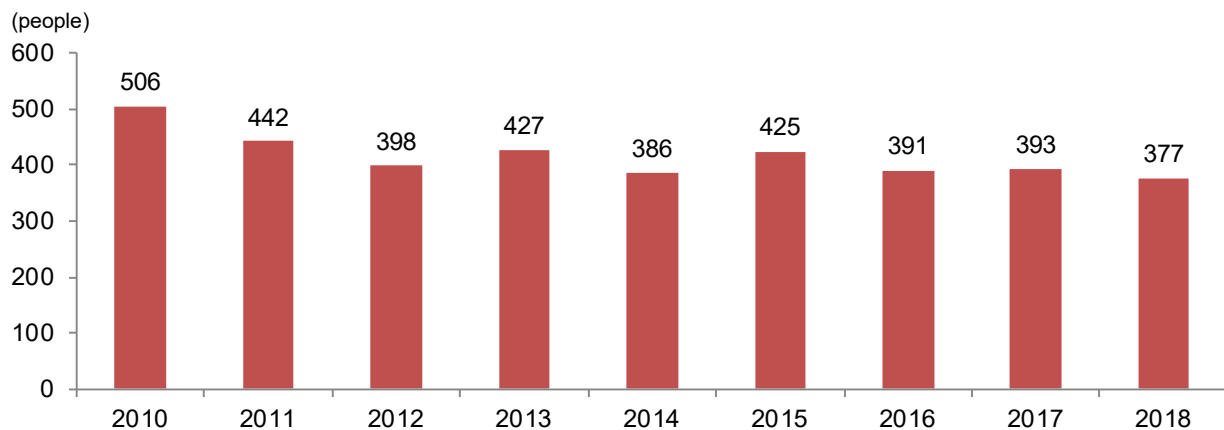
1. Director Committee.....Review the system for supporting children requiring protection, etc.
2. Staff CommitteeComprehensively grasp state of and support for children requiring protection, etc. Confirm main supervising agency, study and review assistance policy
3. Individual Case CommitteeJudge the degree of risk and degree of emergency for current cases of abuse, etc. Grasp situation of child requiring protection, etc., confirm problem

points

B. Home visit checks to prevent abuse of infants (Organizer: Towada City)

This activity is carried out in partnership with obstetricians and child welfare officers. A checklist is used during home visits to give guidance to new mothers on preventing abuse caused by child-care anxieties.

Fig. 3-11 Total number of homes with newborns visited Source: Health Promotion Section data

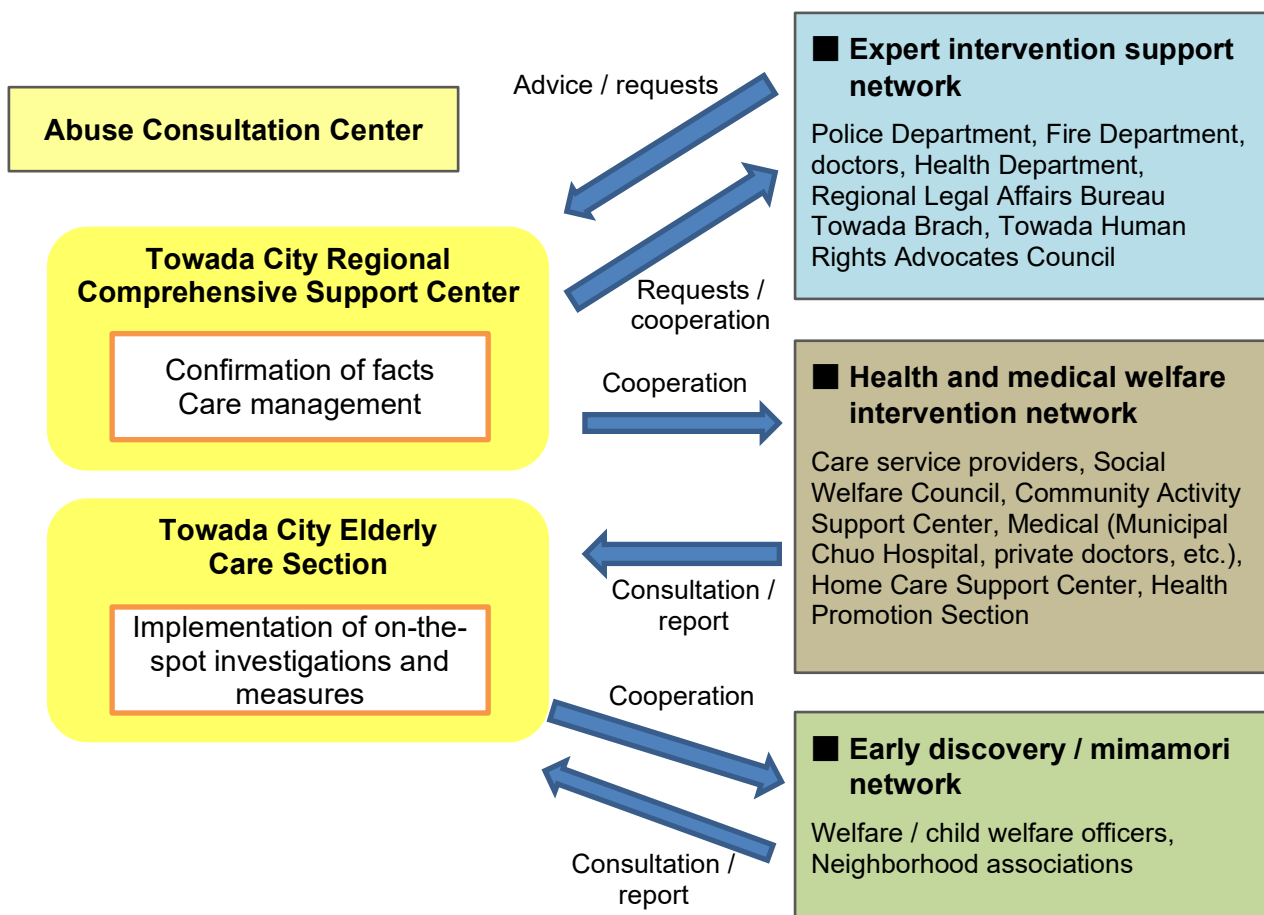


(2)-2 Programs for senior citizens who are being abused

A. Senior citizen abuse prevention consultations and support (Organizer: Towada City)

With the Towada City Regional Comprehensive Support Center as the base, the Police Department, doctors, care-giving service operators, and welfare / child welfare officers, etc., work together to quickly identify and respond to senior citizens who are victims of violence or abuse.

Fig. 3-12 Cooperative organization for preventing elder abuse



3) People with disabilities

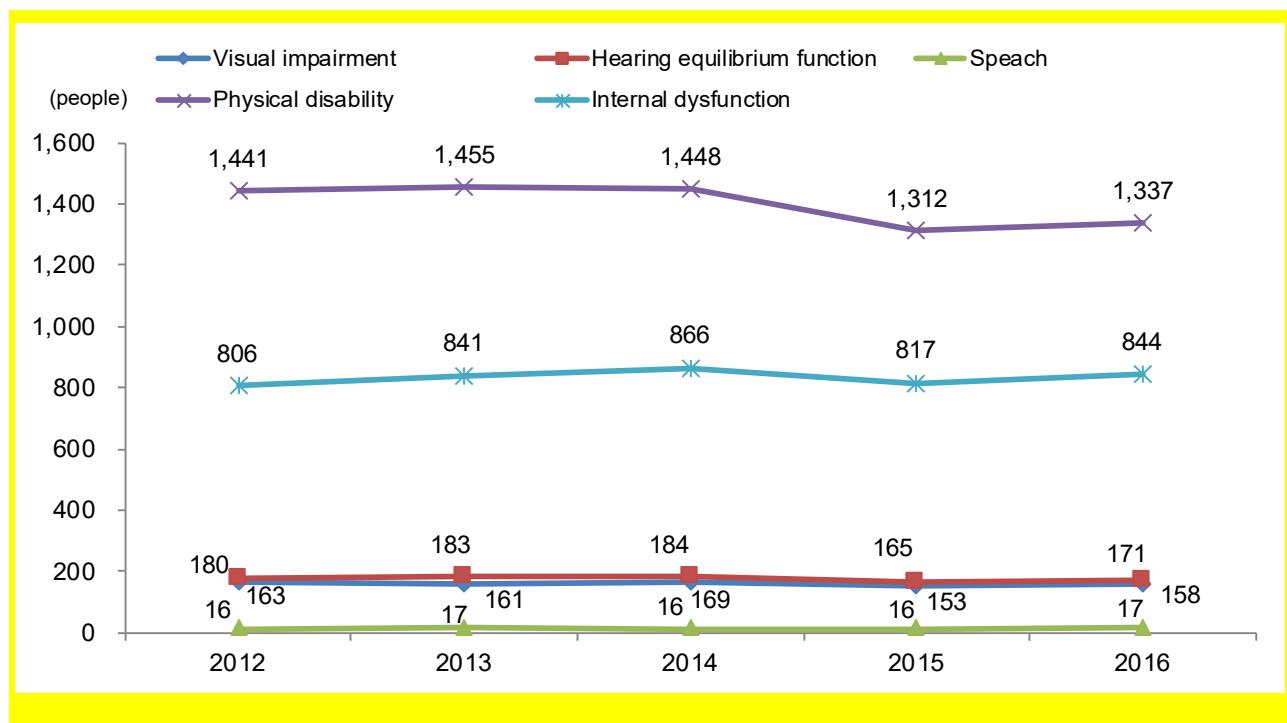
(1) Background of high-risk designation

As of March 31, 2016, there were 2,527 persons with disabilities in Towada City. Looking at the type of disability, 1,337 persons were physically disabled, accounting for 52.9% of all disabilities.

Persons with disabilities have been positioned as a high-risk group because they could be subject to harm if response is delayed in an emergency such as a disaster. Appropriate measures are being implemented.

Fig. 3-13 Number of persons issued a Physically Disabled Person's Handbook (as of March 31, 2016)

“Source: Welfare Section data”



(2) Programs for disabled persons

A. Disaster time assistance requiring person support program

A directory of disabled persons and senior citizens, etc., who cannot evacuate on their own in the event of a disaster has been prepared. The neighborhood associations and community supporters in the area confirm the safety of such persons and help with evacuations.

B. Establishment of Towada City Disabled Person Support Council

A council comprised of medical and disability welfare related business operators and welfare officers has been set to comprehensively support the daily life and social life of disabled persons.

C. Establishment of welfare evacuation centers

Twenty businesses operating social welfare facilities, etc., and the city have entered into an agreement to secure welfare evacuation centers. Evacuation centers are prepared for disabled persons and senior citizens, etc., who require physical care or communication support in the event of a disaster.

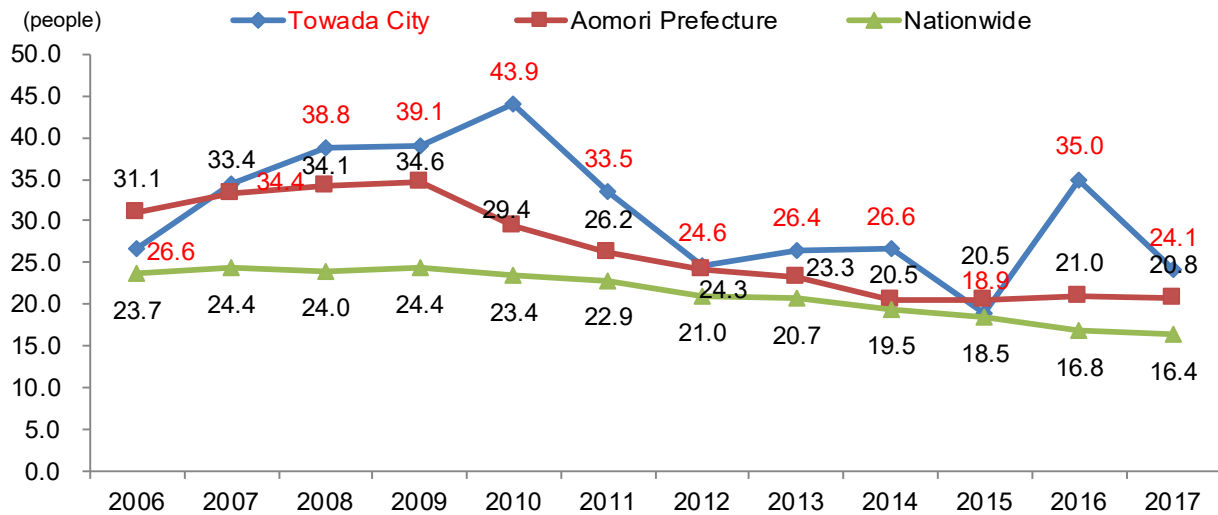
4) People contemplating of suicide

(1) Background of high-risk designation

Persons who are contemplating suicide or who have attempted suicide are at risk of repeating the action. Thus, they have been designated as a high-risk group, and preventive measures, etc., have been implemented.

Fig. 3-14 Transition of suicide by death rate (per 100,000 people)

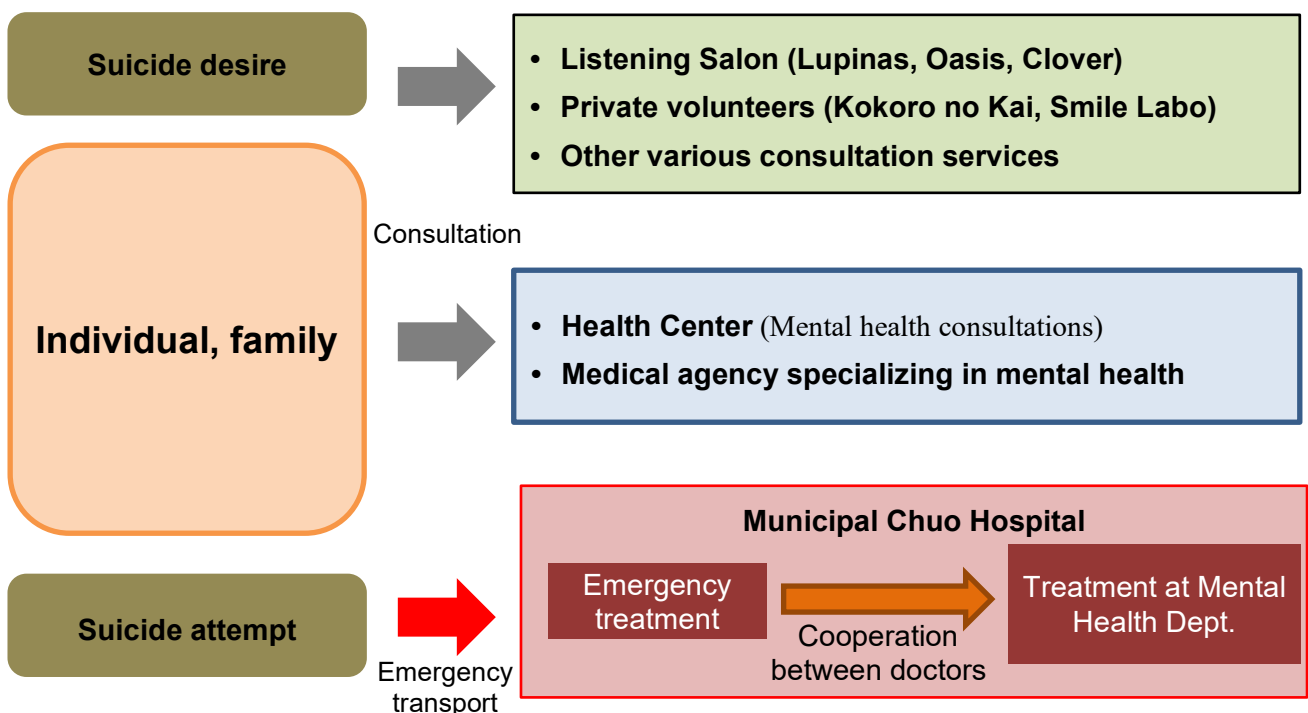
“Source: Demographic Statistics (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)”



(2) Programs for persons contemplating suicide

Partnership with specialized medicine for early treatment

When a person is taken to the hospital by emergency services, the emergency response doctors introduce the patient to the Mental Health Department during the treatment. With the patient's consent, treatment is carried out together with the Mental Health Department.



5) Elders with higher rate of injury from falling, etc.

(1) Background of positioning as high-risk

In Towada City, as well as throughout Japan, the population is aging. The transition in our city exceeds the national rate of aging. Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data collected between 2011 and 2018 shows that of the 7,715 persons injured in our city, 3,329 people were 60 years or older, accounting for 43% of all injuries. Therefore, we have set this group as a high-risk group, and prevention measures, etc., have been implemented.

Fig. 3-15 Transition of total population and rate of aging “Source: Basic Resident Register, etc.”

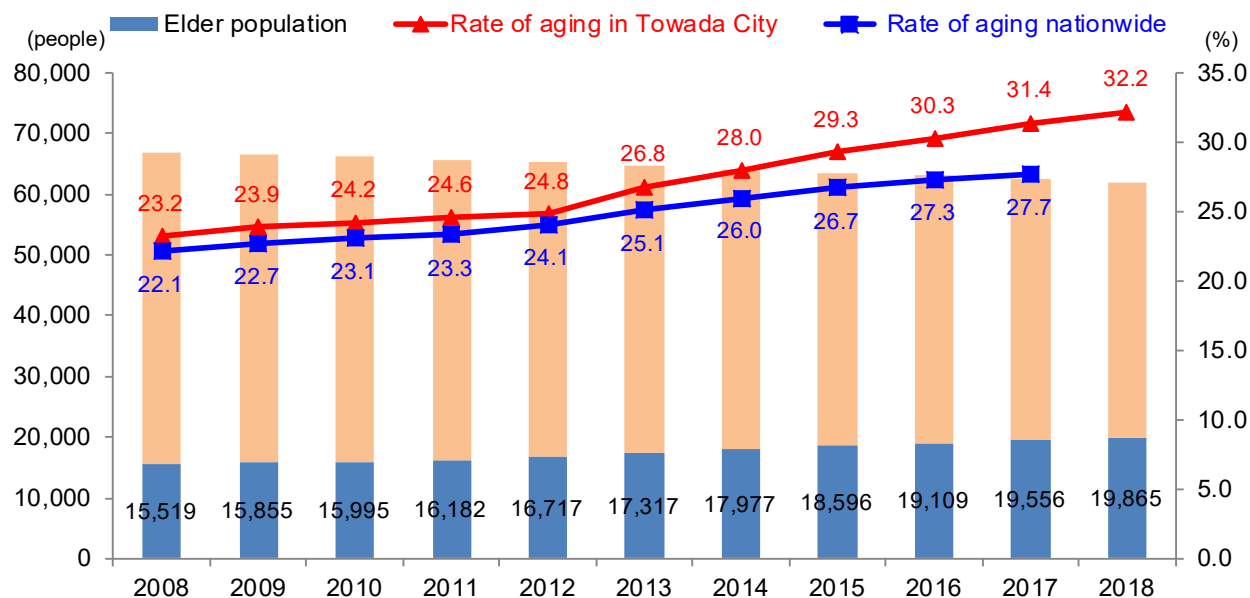
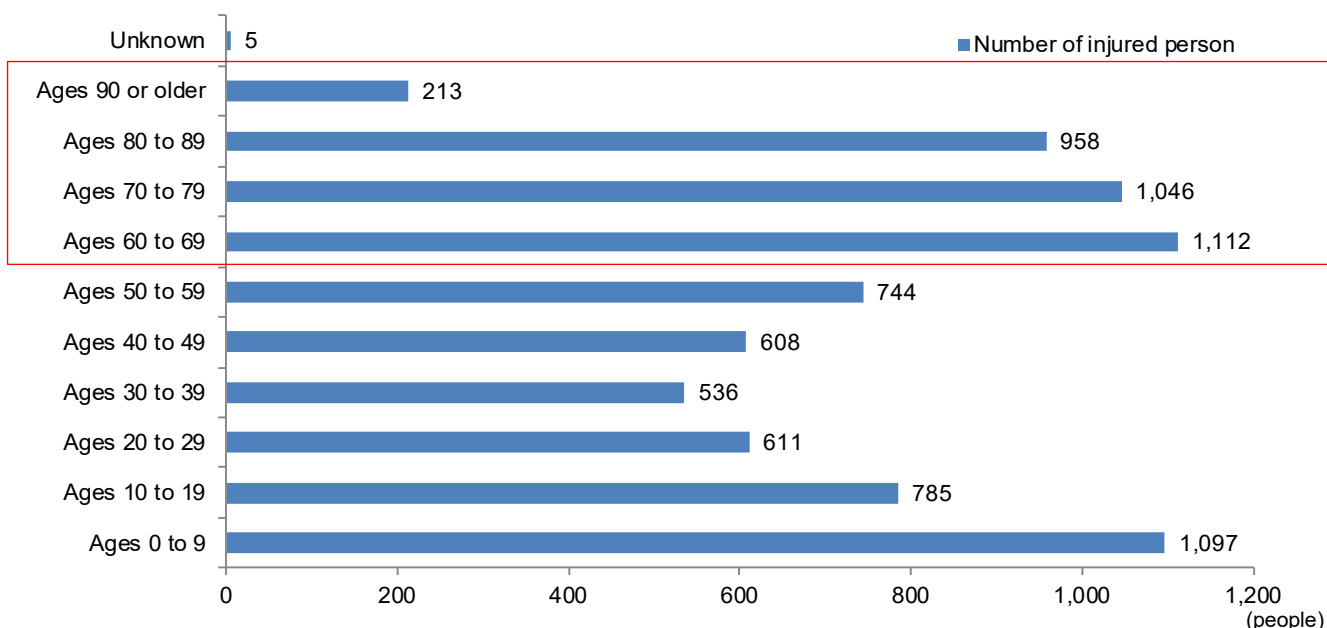


Fig. 3-16 Number of injuries by age group (2011 to 2018) “Source: Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data”



(2) Programs for the elderly
Preventive care for elders

By having elders actually try out exercises and recreation known to be effective for preventive care, we educate the elders on the necessity of preventive care. This program also provides a place for community residence to have exchanges, and aims to create a community where residents can support each other.

- Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program
- Community Iki Iki Classes, etc.



<Community Iki Iki Class>

6) City intersections with many traffic accidents

(1) Background of high-risk designation

In our city where the downtown area is designed as a grid, there are many intersections with a high rate of traffic accidents resulting in injury or death. Therefore, we have set the intersections with high number of traffic accidents as a high-risk environment.

Fig. 3-17 Frequent Traffic Accidents “Source: Towada Police Department data”

| Intersection | Number of traffic accidents resulting in injury or death between 2012 and 2017 | Measures |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Higashi Juniban intersection | 32 cases | Use of color pavement Installation of traffic light scheduled |
| Higashi Nijuichiban intersection | 19 cases | Use of color pavement |
| Nishi Jugoban intersection | 15 cases | Color pavement |
| Ino Bashi intersection | 13 cases | |
| Kamihira intersection | 13 cases | |

(2) Programs for intersections with frequent traffic accidents

Call for vehicle driver attention

Posters showing traffic accident hotspot intersections are posted at public facilities and gasoline stations, etc., to alert the community of places requiring caution. Measures to prevent accidents have been reinforced by using color pavement to improve visual environment.



Towada District traffic accident hotspot poster



Intersection with color pavement

7) Roads around Lake Towada and Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream)

(1) Background of high-risk designation

"Lake Towada" and "Oirase", both popular tourist spots in Aomori Prefecture, are located in our City. Many vehicles travel along National Rt 394, which connects to Aomori City, for tourism and leisurely drives. Tourists visiting these tourist spots by bicycle have also increased with the recent cycling boom and increased availability of rental bicycles, etc.

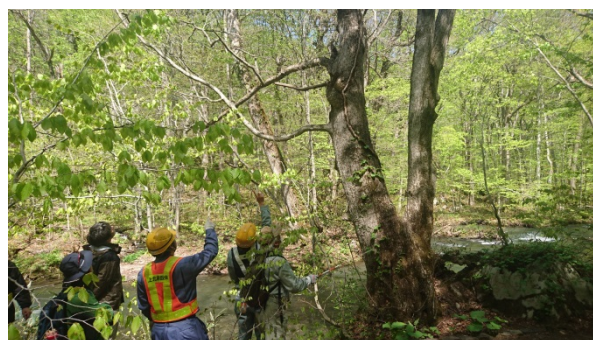
There are many sharp turns and steep inclines around these tourist spots. If a traffic accident occurs, it can take time for emergency services to arrive. In addition, we have had an increase of foreign tourists. We have heard that there are many people riding rental bicycles who do not follow traffic manners. Therefore, we have set this as a high-risk environment.

(2) Programs for preventing traffic accidents on roads around Lake Towada and Oirase Keiryu (mountain stream)

Signs that alert drivers visiting tourist spots of hazardous spots are on permanent display at Michi-no-Eki, etc.



To ensure the safety of many tourists who visit Oirase Keiryu and use the walkway, the concerned agencies inspect for hazardous trees along the walkway.



Indicator 4: Programs Based on Available Evidence

[1] Eight Priority Issues in Towada City

In Towada City, priority issues have been identified from the analysis of accident and injury data. These issues have been set as a priority in our Safe Community programs, and following eight task forces have been established to implement preventive measures.

Fig. 3-18 Priority Issues in Towada City

| Issue | Area |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rate of injury in the age 0 to 4 range is high. Most injuries are occurring at home (indoors). • 44% of injuries during elementary school management hours occurred during recess. | Child safety |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The death rate of elders from accidents (especially suffocation) is high. • The rate of injury is high among senior citizens. The main cause is injury from falling (over and down) during daily life • The rate of aging is advancing faster in Towada City than the national average. | Elderly safety |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For both men and women, health problems are the leading cause and motive of suicide. There are many psychological ailments, such as depression, in a wide range of ages. • Those close by do not recognize signs of suicide. • There are many suicide victims who are in their working prime, the ratio of men is high. • Suicides by the elderly are increasing. | Suicide prevention |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many fatal accidents involving pedestrians. Accidents involving the elderly after twilight are especially high. • Personnel injury accidents at intersections count for approx. 50% of all accidents. • During the winter, snow makes it difficult to ensure the availability of sidewalks. | Traffic accident prevention |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are deaths from residential fires each year. • The population is aging each year. There are concerns about disaster preparations by the elderly and disabled. | Disaster prevention |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations regarding abuse toward children and the elderly are on the rise. | Violence and abuse prevention |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries occurring during sport activities are high among youth in their teens. Most occur at school or public facilities. • There are motorcycle accidents during leisure activities. There have also been bicycle accidents at tourist spots in recent years. • As foreign tourists increase, responses for emergency situations must be planned. | Safety during leisure (sports, tourism) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many farming accidents involve persons age 60 or older. • There are work accidents in various fields such as manufacturing, retail, and construction. Most accidents are caused by falling (over/down). | Work safety |

[2] Programs for Priority Issues

Towada City has set cross-sectoral task forces for the eight task forces. Information is shared on various issues, and prevention activities are developed. The programs of each task force are explained from page 63.

Indicator 5: Programs That Documents the Frequency and Causes of Injuries

[1] Composition and Role of Towada City Safe Community Injury Surveillance Committee

The Towada Safe Community Injury Surveillance Committee has been established as an injury surveillance to investigate and record injuries, etc., and review how to evaluate programs.

This Council is related to Indicators 4, 5 and 6, and its members include specialists from medical or health related administration, and experts with relative knowledge and experience such as university professors. The composition of council members is shown on page 42.

[2] General Image of Injury Surveillance Data

The council grasps the situation from death by injury to experiences of close calls by age group. Details of the data are provided on the following pages in alphabetic classification.

| Category | Infants, preschoolers, children (Age 0 to 14) | Youth and adults (Age 15 to 64) | Senior citizens (Age 65 and older) |
|-----------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Death | A Demographic statistics | | |
| | B Emergency transport data (number of injured persons) | | |
| | C Medical agency consultation data (number of injured persons) | | |
| Serious | D Police statistics (number of traffic accident deaths, number of deaths by suicide) | | |
| | E Fire Department annual report (number of deaths and injuries from fire) | | |
| Moderate | F Labor accident statistics (number of injuries from industrial accidents) | | |
| | G Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster benefits (Number of injured pupils and students) | | |
| Close-call experience | H Safe and Secure City Planning Survey | | |
| | I Awareness survey for parents of infants and toddlers | J Farming safety confirmation survey, investigation of safety measures by companies and businesses, etc. | |
| | K Data on consultations for violence and abuse, etc. | | |

[3] Data Comprising Injury Surveillance

Towada City collects the Fire Department's emergency transport data and medical agency consultation data. Data is also collected with surveys, etc., and used to comprise the injury surveillance data.

1) Existing data from administrative agencies

| Class | Data | Source | Target | Priority issue | Recording frequency |
|----------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| A | Demographic statistics | Ministry of Health | All citizens | All issues | Every year |
| B | Emergency transport data | Fire Defense headquarters | All citizens | All issues | Every year |
| C | Medical institution consult data | Municipal Chuo Hospital | All citizens | All issues | Every year |
| D | Police statistics | Police Department | All citizens | All issues | Every year |
| E | Fire Department annual data | Fire Defense headquarters | All citizens | Disaster prevention | Every year |
| F | Labor accident statistics | Labor Standards Inspection Office | Workers | Work safety | Every year |
| G | Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster benefits | Board of Education | Elementary and junior high students | Child safety | Every year |
| K | Data on consultations for violence and abuse, etc. | City Hall | Minors, women, elderly | Violence and abuse prevention | Every year |

2) Data from various surveys

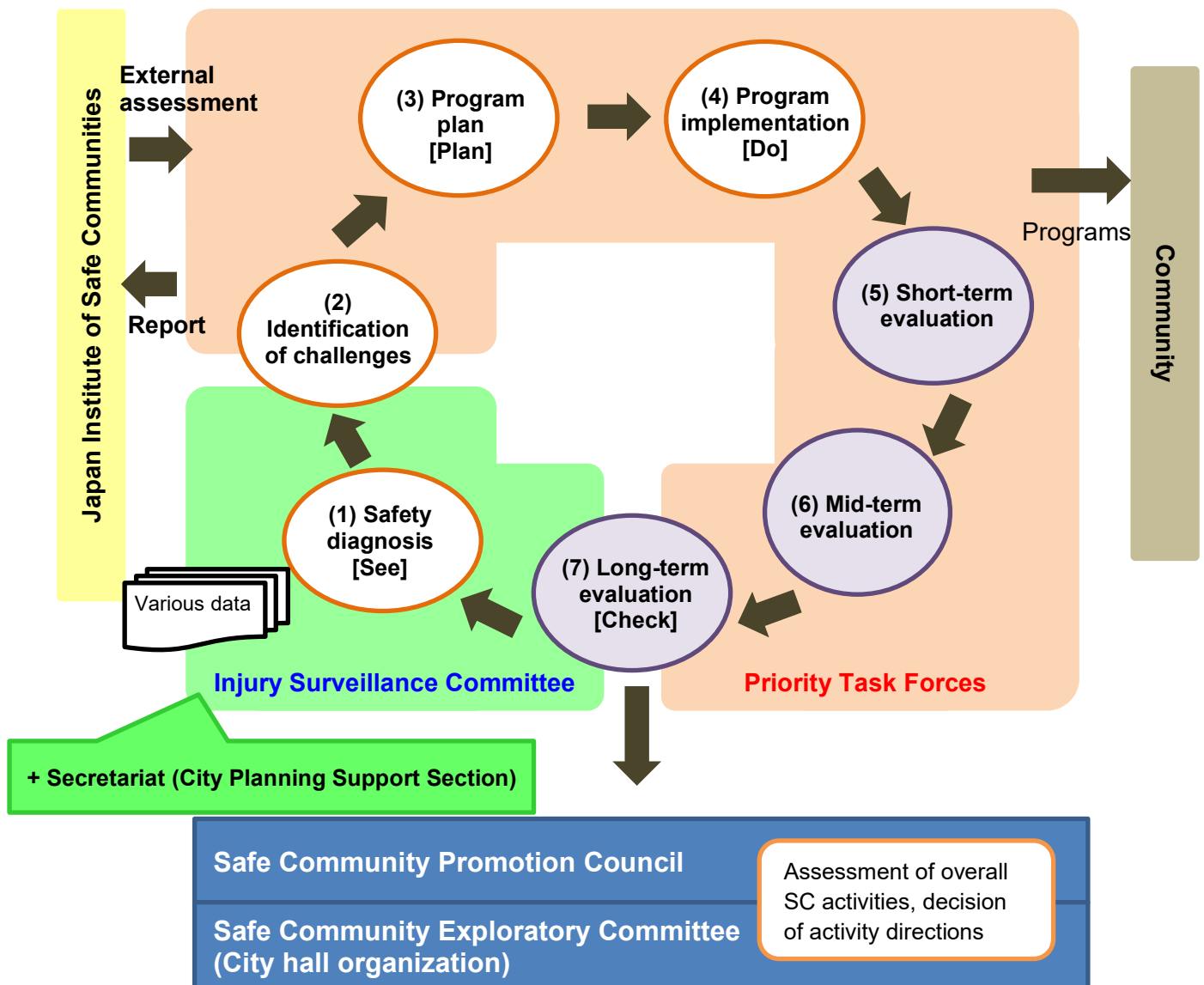
| Class | Data | Source | Target | Priority issue | Recording frequency |
|----------|--|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| H | Survey on safe and secure city planning | City Hall | All citizens | All issues | Every year |
| I | Awareness survey for parents of infants and toddlers | City Hall | Parents of infants and toddlers | Child safety | Every other year |
| J | Farming safety confirmation survey | City Hall | Farmers | Work safety | Every year |
| J | Survey on safety measures for companies and businesses, etc. | City Hall | Companies and businesses | Work safety | Every year |

Indicator 6: Evaluation Measures to Assess Policies, Programs, Processes and the Effects of Change

[1] Management of Safe Community Program Progress

Towada City uses the Plan, Do, Check and Action cycle to promote continuous Safe Community activities based on the injury surveillance data.

Fig. 3-19 System diagram of Safe Community program progress management



[2] Program Indicators, Measurement and Evaluation for Each Priority Issue

In Towada City, programs being carried out for priority challenges are evaluated with a short-term, mid-term and long-term perspective. This section introduces the main assessments at this stage.

(1) Programs for Child Safety

● Challenges and Task Force programs

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|--|--|
| (1) The rate of injury in the age 0 to 4 range is high. Most injuries are occurring at home (indoors). | Raise awareness of parents with infants and toddlers |
| (2) 44% of injuries sustained during elementary school management hours occurred during recess. | Promote safety measures at elementary schools |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|---|---|--|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) The rate of injury in the age 0 to 4 range is high. Most injuries are occurring at home (indoors). | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of “Healthy Parents and Child 21” pamphlet Nobi Nobi Aomori Childcare Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visits to homes with 1-month old infant Pre-school-children checkups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding of safety skits Close Call Meeting Distribution of Nursery School Newsletter Use of posters |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ST mark for safe products | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-school-children checkups | |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|---|-----------------|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) 44% of injuries sustained during elementary school management hours occurred during recess. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of “Healthy Parents and Child 21” pamphlet Nobi Nobi (sound growth) Aomori Childcare Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of safety measures with Safe Community Newsletter Setting of rules for walking in school and using gymnasium | |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laws related to school health and safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction from homeroom teacher, etc. | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety check and management of school facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety check of school facilities and equipment Patrols by student council, etc., during recess | |

< (1) Program to raise awareness of parents with infants and toddlers >

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Challenge | The rate of injury in the age 0 to 4 range is high. Most injuries are occurring at home (indoors). | |
| Goal | Reduce injury among pre-school-children by alerting their parents to pay attention to injuries | |
| Details, etc. | Parents of infants and toddlers are alerted to pay attention to accidents in the home such as accidental ingestion and choking, etc. | |
| | [Target] | Parents of infants/toddlers |
| | [Activity] | Use existing Health Center "Infant/Toddler Checkup" program |
| | [Personnel] | Health Center, nursery schools, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of health checkup participants | City Hall data |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Rate of persons implementing safety measures in the home | Survey of parents using nursery school services |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of age 0 to 4 children injured at home | Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data |

Fig. 3-20 Number and rate of infant and toddlers participating in health checkups "Source: Health Promotion Section survey"

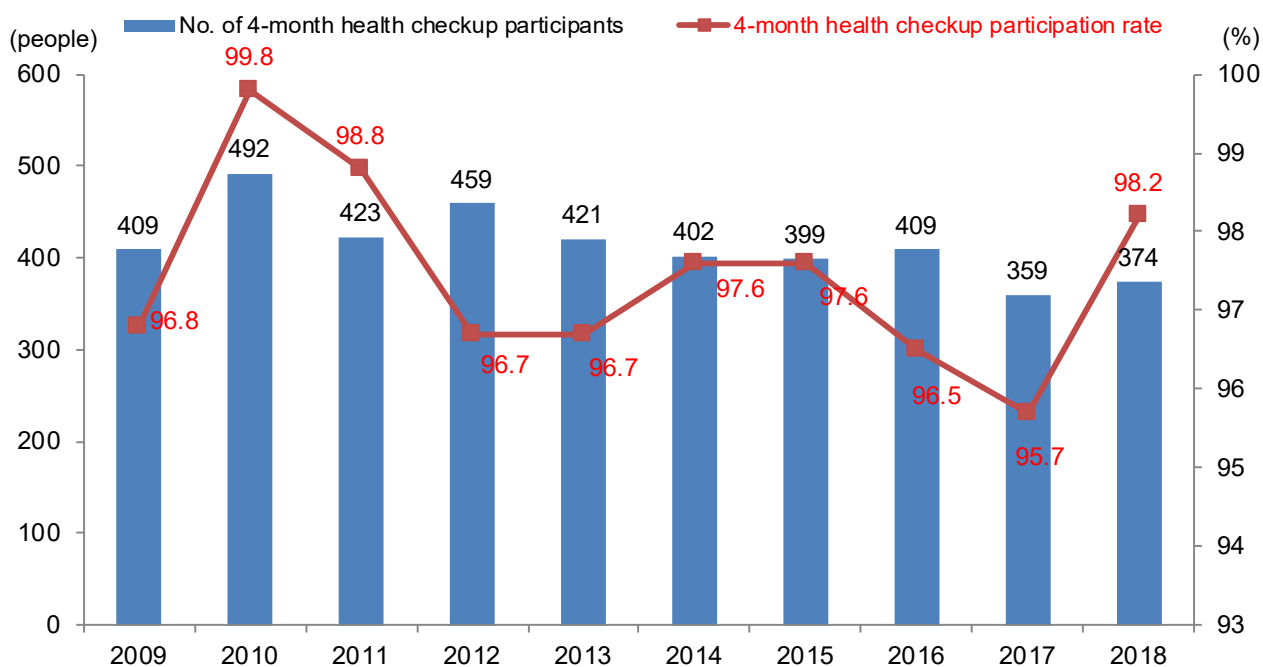
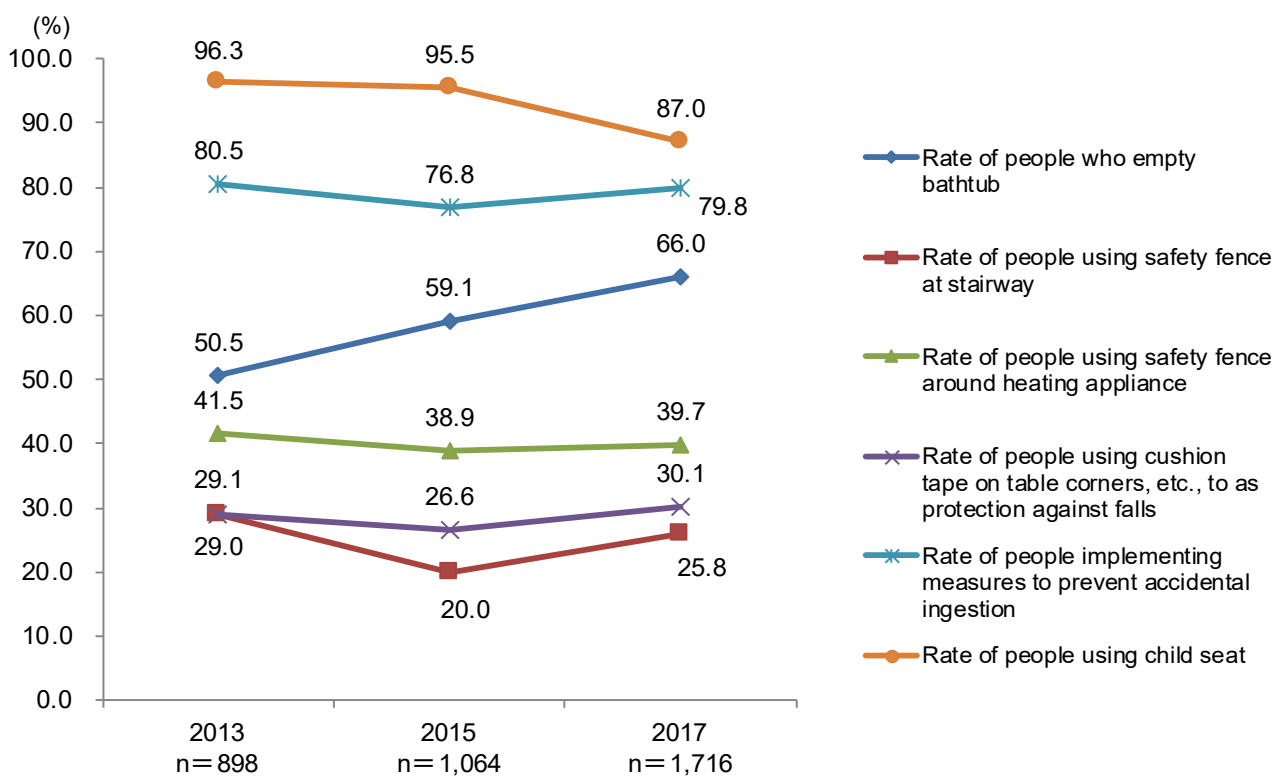


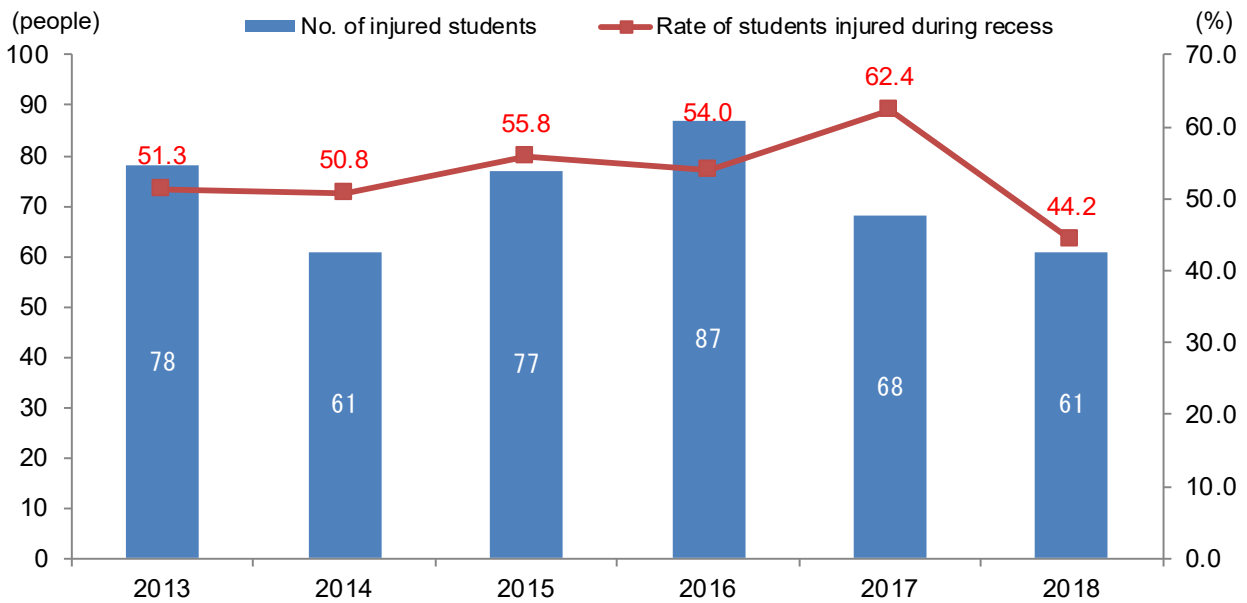
Fig. 3-21 Survey of nursery school children parents "Source: Awareness survey of parents with infants and toddlers"



< (2) Programs for elementary school safety measures >

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Challenge | 44% of injuries sustained during elementary school management hours occurred during recess. | |
| Goal | Reduce the number of injuries sustained during recess. | |
| Details, etc. | Share information on effective safety measures programs at each school, and call for caution by student council. | |
| | [Target] | Elementary school students |
| | [Activity] | Call for attention at elementary school |
| | [Personnel] | Elementary school, Board of Education |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of students who take care at school | Survey of student safety awareness |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of students injured during recess | Board of Education survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | | |

Fig. 3-22 Transition of number of elementary school students injured during recess
 “Source: Japan Sports Promotion Center disaster benefits”



■ Publication of Towada City Safe Community Newsletter

Task Force members conducted interviews on the safety measure programs implemented at municipal elementary schools, and prepared a leaflet.

Hooku Elementary School and Minami Elementary School have been interviewed so far. The newsletter was distributed to all municipal elementary schools. Each school has also been asked to provide information on their safety measures.



(2) Programs for Elderly Safety

● Challenges and Task Force programs

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|---|--|
| (1) The death rate of elders from accidents (especially suffocation) is high. | Promote oral cavity exercises |
| (2) The rate of injury is high among elders. The main cause is injury from falling (over and down) during daily life. | Promote improvement of environment in the home |
| (3) The rate of aging is advancing faster in Towada City than the national average. | Promote Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrol registration policy |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|-----------------|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) The death rate of elders from accidents (especially suffocation) is high. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy Japan 21 (2nd Phase) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program Community Iki Iki Classes <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> ■ Task Force Involvement Promote oral cavity exercises </div> | |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | | | |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) The rate of injury is high among elders. The main cause is injury from falling (over and down) during daily life. | Education | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Iki Iki Classes Project to eliminate lack of exercise during winter <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> ■ Task Force Involvement Promote home environment improvements </div> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elderly Salon |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aomori Elderly Healthy & Independent Plan 2018 (improvement of living environment) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of living environment by Long-term Care Insurance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental of daily life utensils |

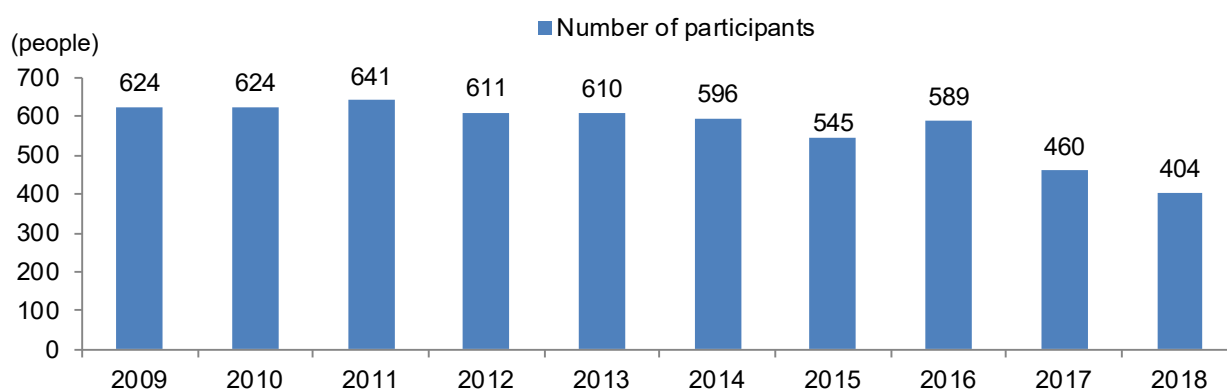
| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (3) The rate of aging is advancing faster in Towada City than the national average. | Education | | • Fureai friendship exchanges for the elderly | • Community Welfare Honobono Exchange program |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | • Aomori Elderly Healthy & Independent Plan 2018(Alliance for the opportunities and places for communication and watch over for the elderly) | • Elderly Safety Mimamori (Watch over) Patrol registration • Towada Never Retire Project (Watch over system by the elderly for the elderly) | • Welfare Reassurance Telephone Service |
| | | | ■ Task Force Involvement Promote Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrol registration policy | |

<(1) Oral Cavity Exercise Promotion Program>

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Challenge | The death rate of elders from accidents (especially suffocation) is high. | | |
| Goal | Reduce accidents caused by suffocation. | | |
| Details, etc. | Promotion prevention of suffocation deaths through oral cavity exercises and training to improve life functions. | | |
| | [Target] | Senior citizens | |
| | [Activity] | Utilize existing "Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program" | |
| | [Personnel] | In-Home Nursing Support Center, Towada City, etc. | |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of participants | City Hall survey | |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Percentage of people whose oral cavity has changed | Survey of Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program participants | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of persons transported by ambulance for choking | Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data | |

Fig. 3-23 Number of Yukko de Iki Iki Exchange program participants

"Source: Elderly Care Section survey"



<2. Program to improve home environment>

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Challenge | The rate of injury is high among elders. The main cause is injury from falling (over and down) during daily life. | |
| Goal | Reduce injuries caused by falling (over and down) in the home. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote improvement of home environment required to prevent falls. | |
| | [Target] | Community Iki Iki Class participants |
| | [Activity] | Utilize existing Community Iki Iki Class programs |
| | [Personnel] | Home Care Support Center, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | 1) Number of participants who think they can prevent falls at home 2) Number of participants who are making an effort to not place objects on the floor | Community Iki Iki Class participant survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of participants who are improving their home environment (barrier free) | Community Iki Iki Class participant survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | 1) Number of participants seeking medical treatment because of falls at home 2) Number of emergency transport cases or outpatient cases treated for injuries sustained from falls at home at Municipal Chuo Hospital | Emergency transport data and medical agency consultation data |

Fig. 3-24 Community Iki Iki Class participant survey

| Class | I can prevent falls in the home | | I make an effort not to place objects on the floor | | My home is barrier-free | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----|--|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| 2014 n=99 | 90% | 10% | 81% | 19% | 42% | 58% |
| 2017 n=248 | 75% | 25% | 73% | 27% | 27% | 73% |

<(3) Elderly Mimamori Network Program>

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Challenge | The rate of aging is advancing faster in Towada City than the national average. | |
| Goal | Increase the number of groups registered in the Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrols, etc., to prevent solitary deaths of the elderly and to be prepared for emergencies. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrol registration policy | |
| | [Target] | Neighborhood associations and private corporations, etc. |
| | [Activity] | Mimamori of elderly households, confirmation of safety by calling out to elders, etc. |
| | [Personnel] | Neighborhood association, postal companies, newspaper delivery companies, Towada City, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Percentage of people aware of mimamori support policy | Citizen survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of business registered with Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrols | City Hall data |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of known reports received from businesses registered with Elderly Safety Mimamori Patrols | City Hall data |

■ Elderly Safety Mimamori (Watch-over)Patrol registration policy

This project is organized and implemented by the City. Groups and businesses registered as cooperating patrols notify the Regional Comprehensive Support Center, etc., when they notice a problem with elder residents, etc., in the community during their daily life or during business.

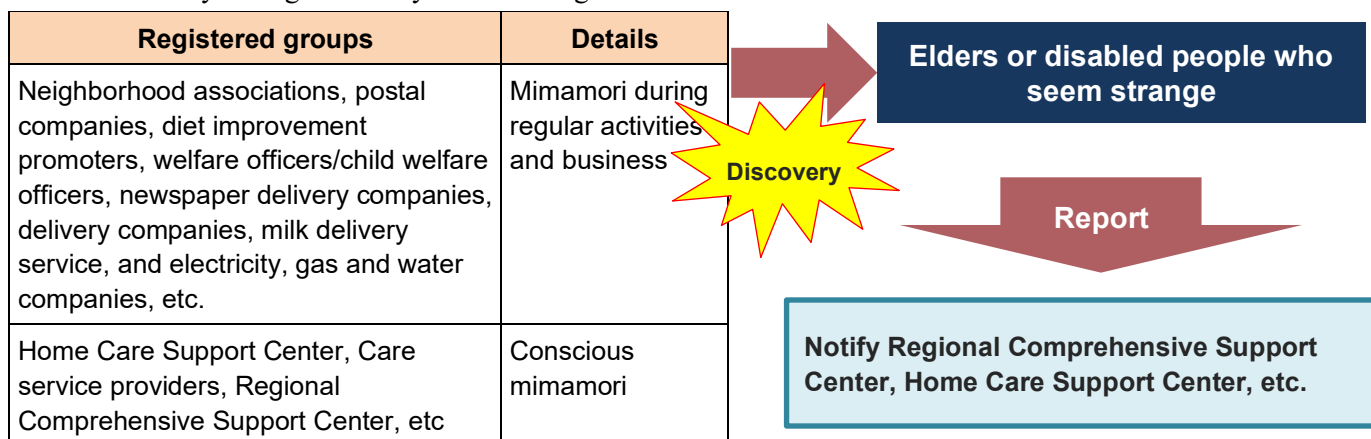
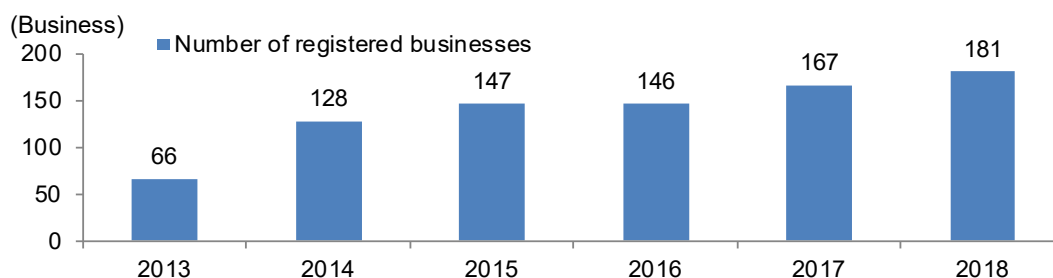


Fig. 3-25 Number of registered Senior Citizen Safety Mimamori Supporter Groups

“Source: Senior citizen survey”



(3) Programs for Suicide Prevention

● Challenges and Task Force programs

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|---|---|
| (1) For both men and women, health problems are the leading cause and motive of suicide. There are many psychological ailments, such as depression, in a wide range of ages. (2) Those close by do not recognize signs of suicide. | Promote information on depression and how to approach afflicted persons |
| (3) There are many suicide victims who are in their working prime, the ratio of men is high. (4) Suicides by the elderly are increasing. | Promote consultation services such as Listening Salons and volunteer group activities |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|---|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) For both men and women, health problems are the leading cause and motive of suicide. There are many psychological ailments, such as depression, in a wide range of ages. (2) Those close by do not recognize signs of suicide. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote gatekeeper training Conduct study sessions with other sectors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community health classes Kokoro Health (Mental Health) classes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote suicide prevention with picture story cards |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Act on Suicide Prevention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suicide Measures Plan | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment and operation of Suicide Measures Promotion Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental consultations City health consultations | |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|---|---|--|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (3) There are many suicide victims who are in their working prime, the ratio of men is high. (4) Suicides by the elderly are increasing. | Education | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening of Listening Salons Health classes at companies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening of Listening salons VIVA classes on dealing with stress |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Act on Suicide Prevention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suicide Measures Plan | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment and operation of Suicide Measures Promotion Center Mental consultation service network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of consultations for independence of needy persons Free consultations for citizens | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free consultations on debt and mental health |

< (1) (2) Program for building mental health >

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Challenge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For both men and women, health problems are the leading cause and motive of suicide. There are many psychological ailments, such as depression, in a wide range of ages. Those close by do not recognize signs of suicide. | |
| Goal | Increase the number of people who know how to deal with stress, and know the symptoms and measures for stress and depression. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote awareness on depression by distributing leaflets on community health classes and gatekeeper training classes, etc. | |
| | [Target] | All citizens |
| | [Activity] | Use existing "Mental Health Class", "Community Health Class" and "Gatekeeper Training" programs. |
| | [Personnel] | Health supporters, health promotion volunteers, super drugstores, Health Center, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of people who know how to deal with stress, and know the symptoms of and measures for depression | Healthy Towada 21 survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of people using Kokoro Consultation service | City Hall survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of deaths by suicide | Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare "Demographic Statistics" |

Fig. 3-26 Number of people using mental health consultations

"Source: Health Promotion Section survey"

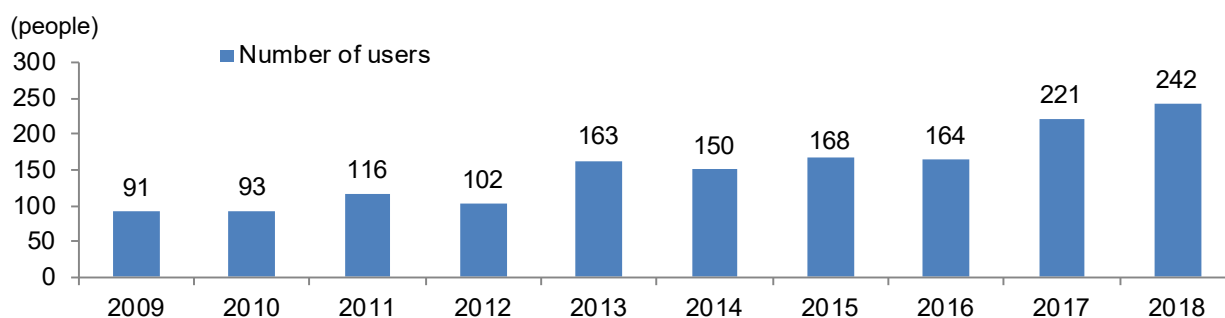
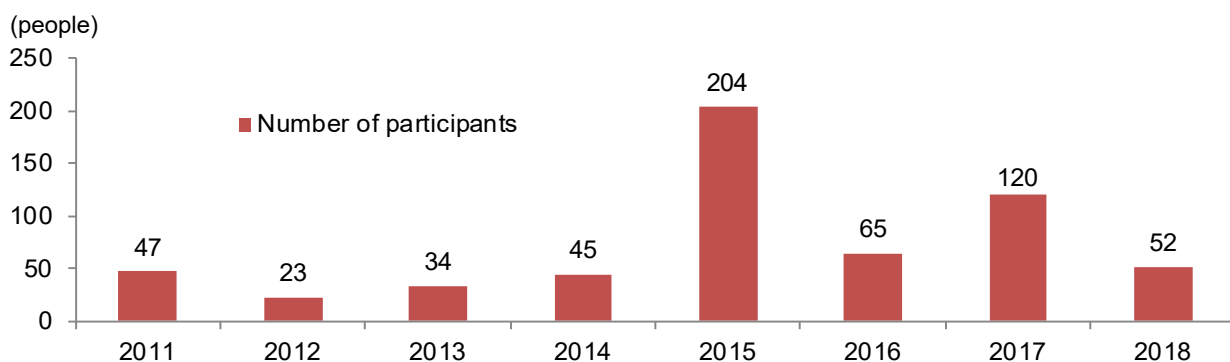


Fig. 3-27 Number of gatekeeper training participants

"Source: Health Promotion Section survey"

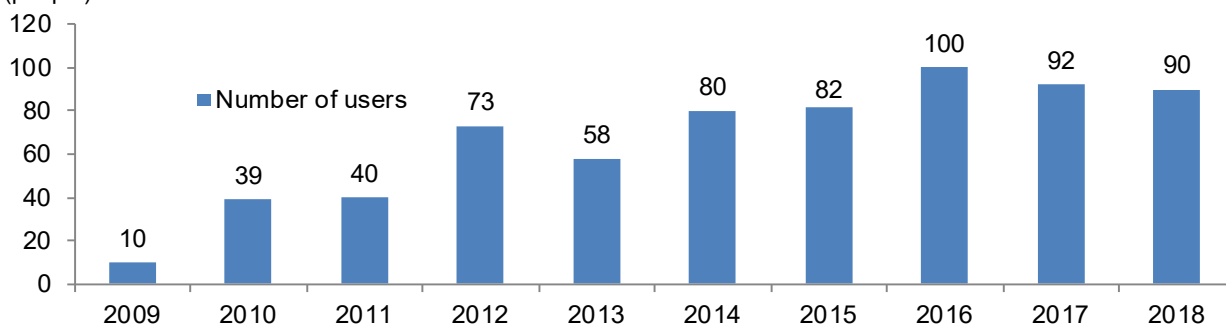


< (3) to (4) Program to support people facing mental / emotional problems >

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Challenge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many suicide victims who are in their working prime, the ratio of men is high. • Suicides by the elderly are increasing. | |
| Goal | Increase opportunities for anyone to easily seek advice. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote Listening Salons, etc., as consultation services. | |
| | [Target] | Citizens |
| | [Activity] | Promote and train listening volunteers |
| | [Personnel] | Listening volunteer groups, City Health Center, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Recognition of listening salon "Kokoro no Hiroba (communication salon) Lupinas" | 1) Business survey 2) Citizen survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | 1) Recognition by companies and businesses 2) Recognition by citizens | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of people using Listening Salon "Kokoro no Hiroba Lupinas" | Survey of listening salon "Kokoro no Hiroba (communication salon) Lupinas" organizers |

Fig. 3-28 No. of people using Listening Salon "Kokoro no Hiroba Lupinas" (people)

"Source: Health Promotion Section survey"



■ Widely promoting consultation services

In 2018, the Task Force prepared leaflets focusing on "places where people gather", "simple and easy to understand contents" and "places where leaflet can be viewed without worrying about other people". Eleven places in the city, such as sports venues, were asked to post the leaflet.



Task Force members visited shops, etc., and asked them to post the leaflet.

(4) Programs for Traffic Accident Prevention**● Challenges and Task Force programs**

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|---|--|
| (1) There are many fatal accidents involving pedestrians. Accidents involving the elderly after twilight are especially high. | Promote use of reflectors |
| (2) Personnel injury accidents at intersections count for approx. 50% of all accidents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote use of color pavement (ended in 2015) • Promote posters showing hazardous intersections |
| (3) During the winter, snow makes it difficult to ensure sidewalk space. | Call for snow removal volunteers (ended in 2017) |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|---|---|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) There are many fatal accidents involving pedestrians. Accidents involving the elderly after twilight are especially high. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aomori Prefecture Traffic Accident Sympathy (Mutual Aid) Policy • Distribution of posters promoting reflectors • National Traffic Safety Campaign • Aomori Prefecture Citizens for Traffic Safety Campaign | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of yellow hats to new 1st graders • Presentation of reflective tape | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of yellow randoseru (school bag) covers to new 1st graders • Street campaigns targeting drivers |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Act on Traffic Safety Measures • Road Traffic Law | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aomori Prefecture Traffic Safety Implementation Plan(improvement of the traffic environment) | | |

■ Task Force Involvement
Visit elderly households to distribute reflectors and call for use of reflectors

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|---|--|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) Personnel injury accidents at intersections count for approx. 50% of all accidents. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Traffic Safety Campaign Aomori Prefecture Citizens for Traffic Safety Campaign | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of signs calling for caution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic safety classes Street campaigns targeting drivers |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Act on Traffic Safety Measures Road Traffic Law | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of traffic lights and signs | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of banners Mimamori along school routes |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|---|--|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (3) During the winter, snow makes it difficult to ensure sidewalk space | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental of snow removal equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental of snow removal equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow removal volunteers |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules for use of snow tires and snow chains (Aomori Prefecture Road Traffic Rules) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines for sidewalk snow removal volunteer project Ordinance related to promotion of snow removal through cooperation | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aomori Prefecture Snow Removal Project Plan (Provision of de-icer, traffic control in the show) | | |

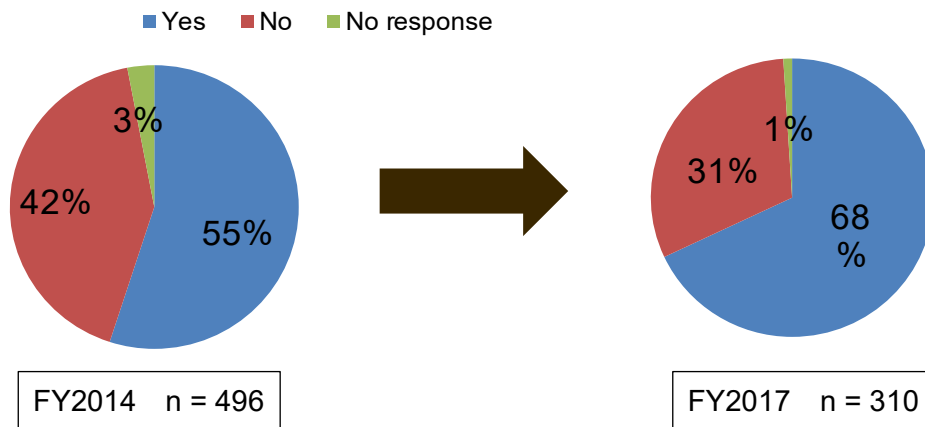
<(1) Program to promote use of reflectors>

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Challenge | There are many fatal accidents involving pedestrians. Accidents involving the elderly after twilight are especially high. | |
| Goal | Reduce the number fatal accidents among pedestrians. | |
| Details, etc. | Visit homes to promote caution and distribute reflectors. | |
| | [Target] | Senior citizens |
| | [Activity] | Utilize existing "Senior Citizen Home Visit" program |
| | [Personnel] | Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety, Neighborhood associations, Police Department, Towada City, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Persons who want reflectors, Persons who have reflectors | Citizen survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of deaths and serious accidents involving pedestrians | Towada Police Department |

Fig. 3-29 Survey regarding possession of reflectors

"Source: Safe and Secure City Planning Survey"

Q) Do you have reflectors?



■ Visits to elderly household to attach reflectors

The City's Association of Mothers for Traffic Safety helps in promoting traffic safety for elders by visiting the homes of elderly residents, and promoting awareness of traffic accidents. At the same time, they distributed and attached reflectors to the elderly's shoes. The Task Force members also went along to hand out reflectors and to promote traffic safety.



<(2) Intersection accident countermeasure program>

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Challenge | Personnel injury accidents at intersections count for approx. 50% of all accidents. | |
| Goal | Reduce the number of traffic accidents involving automobiles at intersections. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote information on intersections where accidents occur frequently. | |
| | [Target] | Citizens |
| | [Activity] | Promote information on intersections where accidents occur frequently |
| | [Personnel] | Police Department, Traffic Safety Association, Neighborhood associations, Towada City, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of intersections with high rates of accidents resulting in injury or death | Towada Police Department data |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of designated intersections with countermeasures | Towada Police Department data |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of traffic accidents at designated intersections | Towada Police Department data |

■ Selection of places to treat with color pavement (ended in 2015)

Since 2010, the Safe Community Traffic Accident Prevention Task Force has been involved in selecting places to treat with color pavement, which is an existing City project. A total of 15 intersections were treated with color pavement.

This color pavement has reduced traffic accidents at the treated sections by approx. 60%.

This project ended when the planned color pavement treatment was ended in 2015.



■ Promotion of traffic accident hotspot poster

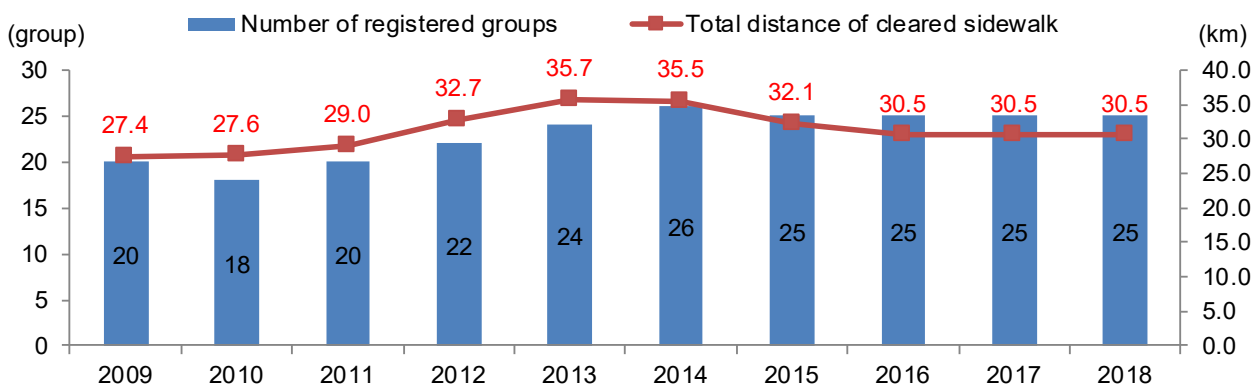
When the above color pavement project was ended, the Task Force discussed future activities. It was decided to utilize the “Towada District Traffic Accident Hotspot” poster and leaflets prepared by the Towada Police to inform the citizens of accident hotspots in the city, and increase awareness of traffic safety.



< (3) Program for pedestrian safety during winter > * Ended in 2017

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Challenge | During the winter, snow makes it difficult to ensure sidewalk space | |
| Goal | Ensure a safe sidewalk for pedestrians and students commuting to school during winter | |
| Details, etc. | Call for snow removal volunteers to clear snow on sidewalks and school routes in neighborhood association districts, etc. | |
| | [Target] | Pedestrians |
| | [Activity] | Call for snow removal volunteers |
| | [Personnel] | Neighborhood associations, Towada City, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of registered snow removal volunteer groups | City Hall data |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Extension of sidewalks cleared by snow removal volunteers | City Hall data |

Fig. 3-30 Number of registered snow removal volunteer groups and total distance of cleared sidewalk
Source: Civil Engineering Section survey



■ End of program

At the FY2018 Task Force meeting, opinions such as “The number of registered groups and cleared sidewalks has not increased”, “Most neighborhood associations along the sidewalks have already joined”, “Snow is appropriately removed together with the City’s sidewalk project”, and “There have been no deaths of pedestrians walking along snow covered road” were received. Therefore, this program ended after the FY2017 activities.



(5) Programs for Disaster Prevention**● Challenges and Task Force programs**

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|--|--|
| (1) There are deaths from residential fires each year. | Promote installation of residential smoke detectors. |
| (2) The population is aging each year. There are concerns about disaster preparations by the elderly and disabled. | Increase awareness of “self-help” and “cooperation” in preparation for disasters |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

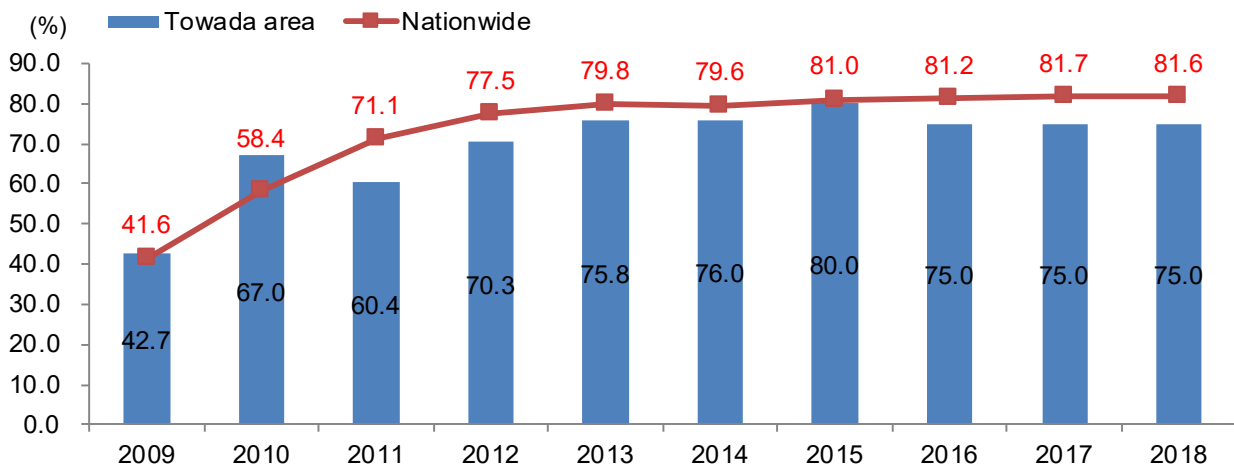
| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) There are deaths from residential fires each year. | Education | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-visit lecture Fire Defense promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary fire corps Youth and women’s fire prevention clubs |
| | Enforcement | • Fire Service Act | | |
| | Environment | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction of residential smoke detector installation and patrols Holding of seminar sessions, etc., for youth and women fire prevention clubs | |
| | | | ■ Task Force Involvement Promote installation of residential smoke detectors | |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|--|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) The population is aging each year. There are concerns about disaster preparations by the elderly and disabled. | Education | • Distribution of disaster prevention handbook | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General disaster prevention drills Voluntary disaster prevention group training project | • Evacuation drills held by voluntary disaster prevention groups |
| | Enforcement | • Basic Act on Disaster Control Measures | | |
| | Environment | • Dispatch of Self-Defense Forces during disasters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of evacuation center plates Distribution of disaster prevention map Preparation of hazard map | |
| | | | ■ Task Force Involvement Promote awareness regarding disasters | |

< (1) Program to promote installation of residential smoke detectors >

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Challenge | There are deaths from residential fires each year. | |
| Goal | Reduce the number of deaths from residential fires | |
| Details, etc. | Promote installation, maintenance, and management of residential smoke detectors. | |
| | [Target] | Citizens |
| | [Activity] | Utilize existing "Fire Department Headquarters Seminars (Delivery Classes)" |
| | [Personnel] | Fire Department headquarters, Women's Fire Prevention Club, Neighborhood associations, City Hall, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of installed residential smoke detectors | Fire Department headquarters data |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of deaths from residential fires | Fire Department headquarters data |

Fig. 3-31 Rate of residential smoke detector installation "Source: Fire Department data"



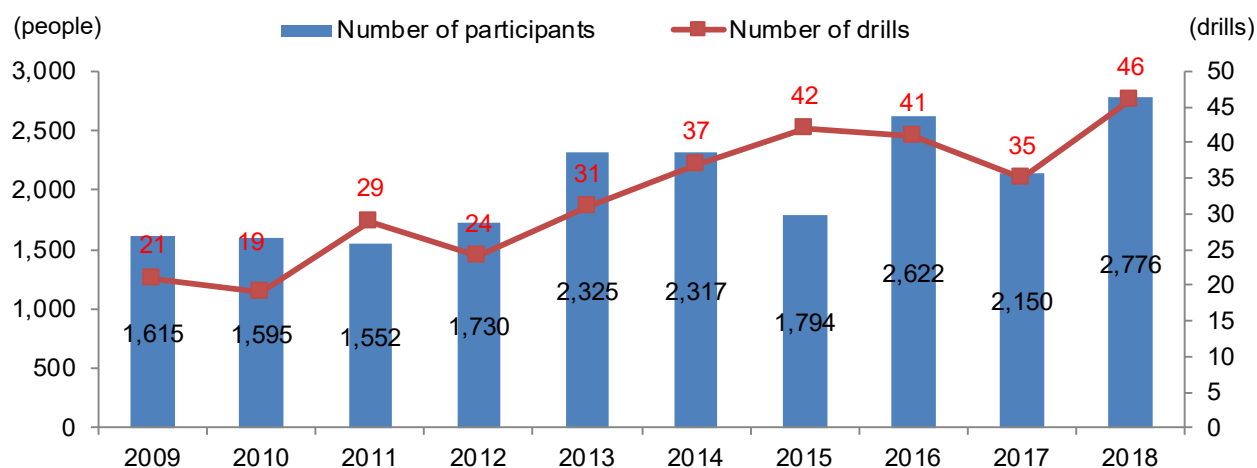
* Towada District is total for Towada City and Rokunohe Town.

* In the investigation of Towada District, the investigated area differs each year, so the installation rate fluctuates.

< (2) Program to increase awareness regarding disasters >

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Challenge | The population is aging each year. There are concerns about disaster preparations by the elderly and disabled. | |
| Goal | Increase awareness for preparing for disasters, etc. | |
| Details, etc. | Aim to increase “self-help” and “cooperation” in preparation for disasters. | |
| | [Target] | Citizens |
| | [Activity] | Voluntary disaster drills by voluntary disaster prevention groups and neighborhood associations |
| | [Personnel] | Fire Department headquarters, Women’s fire prevention club, Neighborhood associations, Towada City |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of persons participating in evacuation drills and fire extinguishing drills | Fire Department headquarters data |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | (Self-help) Rate of persons who have worked to improve their environment in preparation for disasters | Citizen survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | (Cooperation) Number of persons participating in evacuation drills and fire extinguishing drills in preparation for disasters, and discussions with people in the community regarding division of roles in disaster. | Citizen survey |

Fig. 3-32 Number of evacuation and fire extinguishing drill participants and number of drills “Source: Fire Department data”



(6) Programs for Violence and Abuse**● Challenges and Task Force programs**

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|--|---|
| Consultations regarding abuse toward children and the elderly are on the rise. | Promotion of Orange Ribbon and Purple Ribbon programs |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|---|---|-----------------|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| Consultations regarding abuse toward children and the elderly are on the rise. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange Ribbon campaign • Purple Ribbon campaign • Child Abuse Prevention Campaign Month | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation support provided by female counselors, homes, and child counselors • Holding of Childcare Support Forum • Activities to promote awareness of abuse prevention at Welfare Fair • Kirameki Lectures | |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Abuse Prevention Act • Act on the Prevention of Elder Abuse | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group instruction/guidance and inspection of facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towada City Child and Family Consultation Center • Towada City Task Force Committee for Children Requiring Protection | |

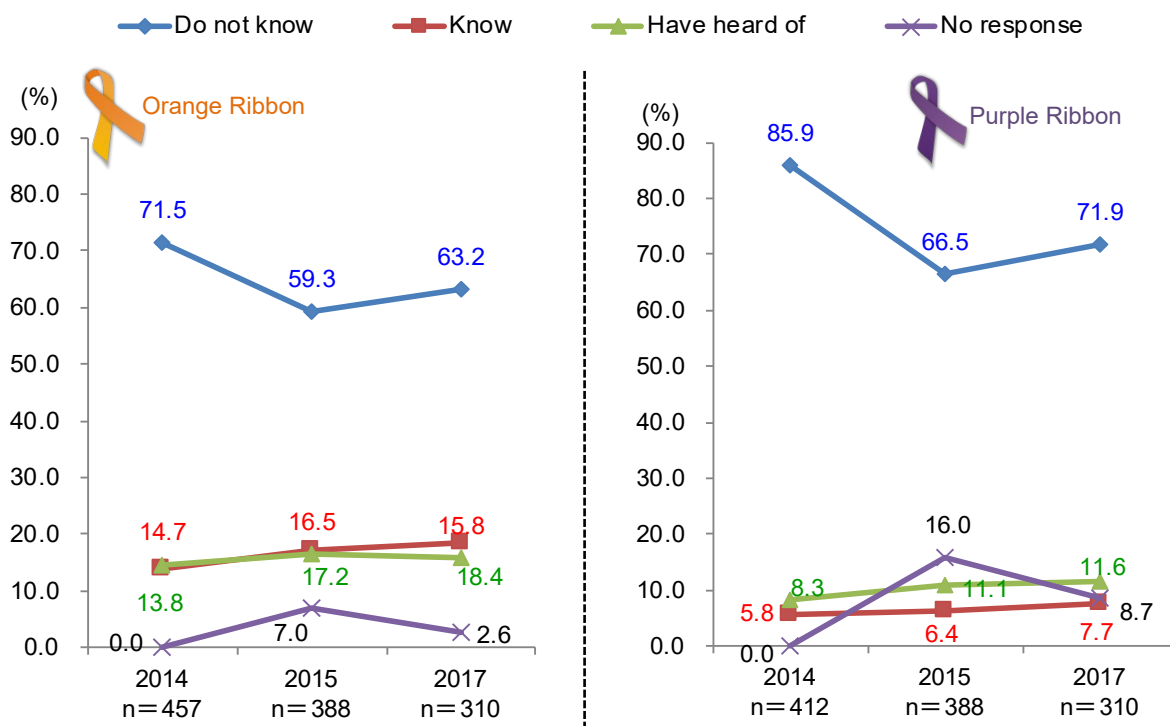
■ **Task Force Involvement**
Promotion of Orange and Purple Ribbon programs

< Orange Ribbon / Purple Ribbon Promotion Programs >

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Challenge | Consultations regarding abuse toward children and the elderly are on the rise. | |
| Goal | Inform the community of consultation services for violence and abuse, and the obligation to report such cases. | |
| Details, etc. | Ribbons in Orange(symbol of child abuse prevention) /purple (symbol of domestic violence prevention) and leaflets are distributed for promotion to increase the citizens' understanding of abuse and DV. | |
| | [Target] | Citizens |
| | [Activity] | Distribute orange ribbons, prepare and distribute purple ribbons, prepare and distribute leaflet on abuse prevention |
| | [Personnel] | Towada Police Department, Towada District Childcare Research Group, NPO Smile Labo, City Hall, Board of Education |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Rate of people who know the meaning of the Orange Ribbon and Purple Ribbon | Citizen survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Rate of people who consult or report abuse when they find an infant/toddler or senior citizen who might be an abuse victim | Citizen survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of people who used consultation services | Number of consultations |

Fig. 3-33 Familiarity of Orange Ribbon and Purple Ribbon

"Source: Safe and Secure City Planning survey"



(7) Programs related to Leisure Activity Safety**● Challenges and Task Force programs**

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|---|---|
| (1) Injuries occurring during sport activities are high among youth in their teens. Most occur at school or public facilities. | Promote lifesaving classes so more residents can perform first aid and life-saving CPR. |
| (2) There are motorcycle accidents during leisure activities. There have also been bicycle accidents at tourist spots in recent years. | Alert motorcycle riders of hazardous spots. ⇒ Bicycle safety measures at tourist spots |
| (3) As foreign tourists increase, responses for emergency situations must be planned. | Introduce first-aid cards for promoting communication with foreigners. |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|--|---|--|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) Injuries occurring during sport activities are high among youth in their teens. Most occur at school or public facilities. | Education | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifesaving training for staff of public facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifesaving training for sports instructors |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of AED units at Prefectural senior high schools Installation of AED units at public facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of AED units at elementary and jr. high schools Installation of AED units at public facilities Safety inspection of exercise equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety inspections of exercise equipment |

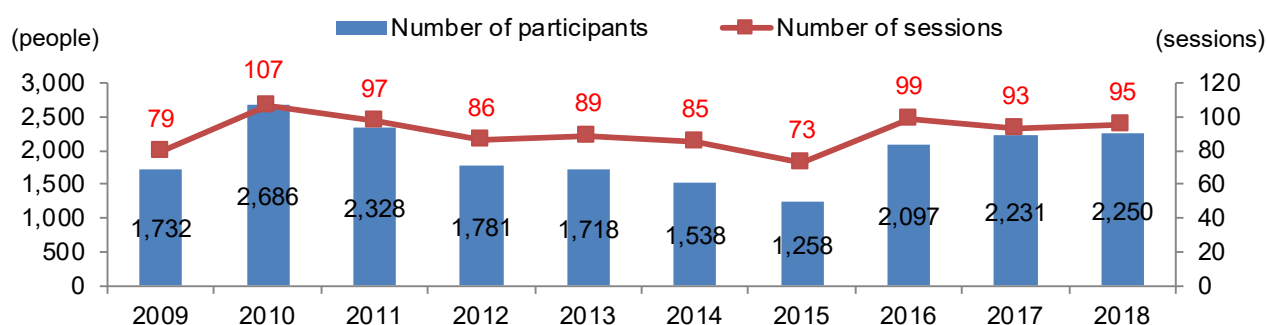
| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|--|-------------|---|---|-----------------|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) There are motorcycle accidents during leisure activities. There have also been bicycle accidents at tourist spots in recent years. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Traffic Safety Campaign | | |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Traffic Laws, etc. | | |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of signs, convex mirrors, and guardrails | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of signs, convex mirrors, and guardrails | |

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|-----------------|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (3) As foreign tourists increase, responses for emergency situations must be planned. | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar on crisis management for foreign tourists | <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> Task Force Involvement Introduce first-aid cards for promoting communication with foreigners </div> | |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Act for Promoting a Tourism-Oriented Country | | |
| | Environment | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidies for projects to maintain environment to accept in-bound visitors | |

< (1) Lifesaving course program >

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Challenge | Injuries occurring during sport activities are high among youth in their teens. Most occur at school or public facilities. | | |
| Goal | Increase number of persons who have taken lifesaving course. | | |
| Details, etc. | Promote lifesaving course. | | |
| | [Target] | Fire Defense Headquarters | |
| | [Activity] | Utilize existing "Lifesaving course" | |
| | [Personnel] | Youth sports groups, Sports Association, Welfare officers, Neighborhood associations, Fire Department headquarters, etc. | |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of people who want to take lifesaving course | Citizen survey | |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Number of people who took lifesaving course | Fire Department headquarters data | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of people who took lifesaving course in last three years | Citizen survey | |

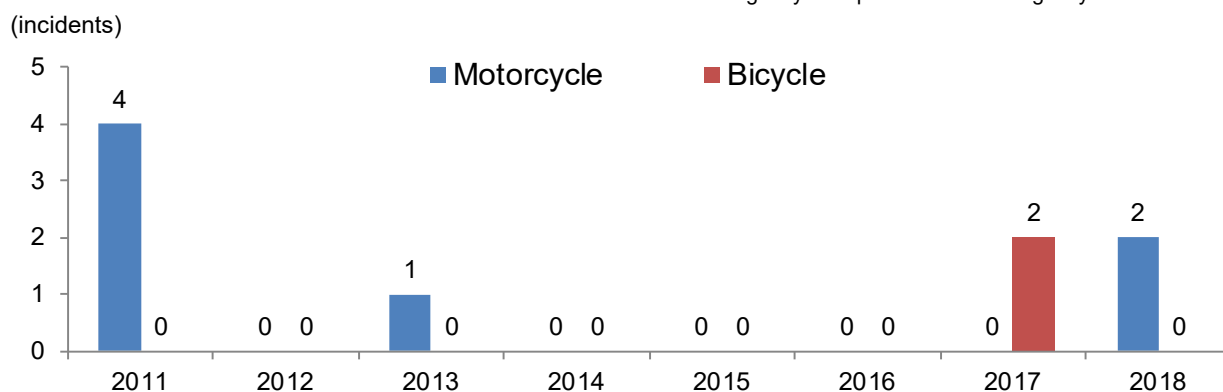
Fig. 3-34 Number of people who took lifesaving course, and number of sessions "Source: Fire Defense Headquarters survey"



< (2) Program to call for caution to motorcycle riders >

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Challenge | There are motorcycle accidents during leisure activities. There have also been bicycle accidents at tourist spots in recent years. | |
| Goal | Reduce number of motorcycle accidents at tourist spots. | |
| Details, etc. | Caution motorcycle riders driving through the mountains. | |
| | [Target] | Motorcycle riders |
| | [Activity] | Call for caution by installing signs, etc. |
| | [Personnel] | Michi-no-eki (roadside station) Towada, Foundation to Revitalize Towada City Hometown, Towada City, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Motorcycle riders who saw signs | Survey of motorcycle riders |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Motorcycle riders who remember to drive safely | Survey of motorcycle riders |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of accidents at tourist spots | Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data |

Fig. 3-35 Number of emergency transports for motorcycle and bicycle accidents at tourist spots (Yasumiya District, Oirase Keiryu District)
 "Source: Emergency transport and medical agency consultation data"



■ Changes to contents of program after review of challenges

At the 2018 Task Force meeting, the “Program to call for caution to motorcycle riders” was discussed based on previous data from up to FY2017.

The Task Force members commented that “For 4 years since 2013, there have been no motorcycle accidents at tourist spots (Yasumiya District, Oirase Keiryu District)”, “It is difficult to distinguish whether accident is part of daily use or leisure activity”, “In recent years, the number of cyclists has increased in the Oirase Keiryu District, but many of them ride dangerously”, etc. Therefore, it was decided to revise the contents of the program from calling for caution to motor cycle riders to taking measures for bicycles.

The Task Force is currently deliberating and studying the program contents.

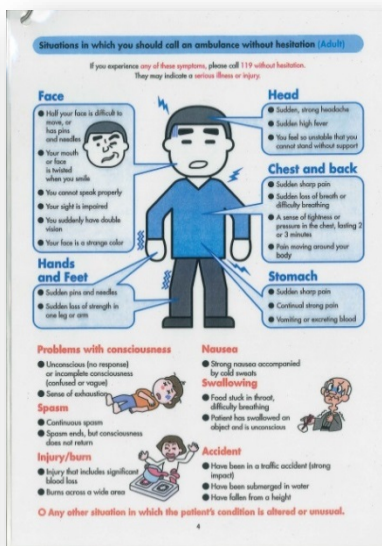
< (3) Program to introduce first-aid cards >

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Challenge | As foreign tourists increase, responses for emergency situations must be planned. | |
| Goal | Reduce the rate of people who have concerns about safety measures for foreign lodgers. | |
| Details, etc. | [Target] | Foreigners |
| | [Activity] | Distribute multi-language first-aid cards |
| | [Personnel] | Employees of lodging facilities, souvenir shops, and restaurants, etc. |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Number of places making first-aid cards available | City Hall survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Situation of use by facilities making cards available | Survey of facility |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Rate of people with concerns toward foreign tourists | Survey of lodging facilities, etc. |

■ Provision of first-aid cards



Japanese



English



Chinese

In 2016, first-aid cards in three languages were distributed to all lodging facilities (35 facilities) in the city. Today, through advances in translation apps on smartphones, more people are conversing using the app. Therefore, we will investigate the situation of first-aid card use, and determine whether to continue the project.

(8) Programs for Workplace Safety**● Challenges and Task Force programs**

| Challenge | Task Force programs |
|---|---|
| (1) Most persons injured during farming work are over 60 years old. | Promote seminars on preventing farming work accidents |
| (2) There are work accidents in various fields such as manufacturing, retail, and construction. Most accidents are caused by falling (over/down). | Distribute leaflets regarding work accidents prevention |

● Level-specific measures for each challenge

| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (1) Most persons injured during farming work are over 60 years old. | Education and promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Farming work Safety Confirmation Campaign Aomori Prefecture Farming work Safety Campaign promotion plan | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference on measures to prevent accidents from falling (over and down) while using agricultural equipment Promotion of farming work safety |
| | Enforcement | | | |
| | Environment | | | |

■ **Task Force Involvement**
Promote seminar on preventing farming work accidents

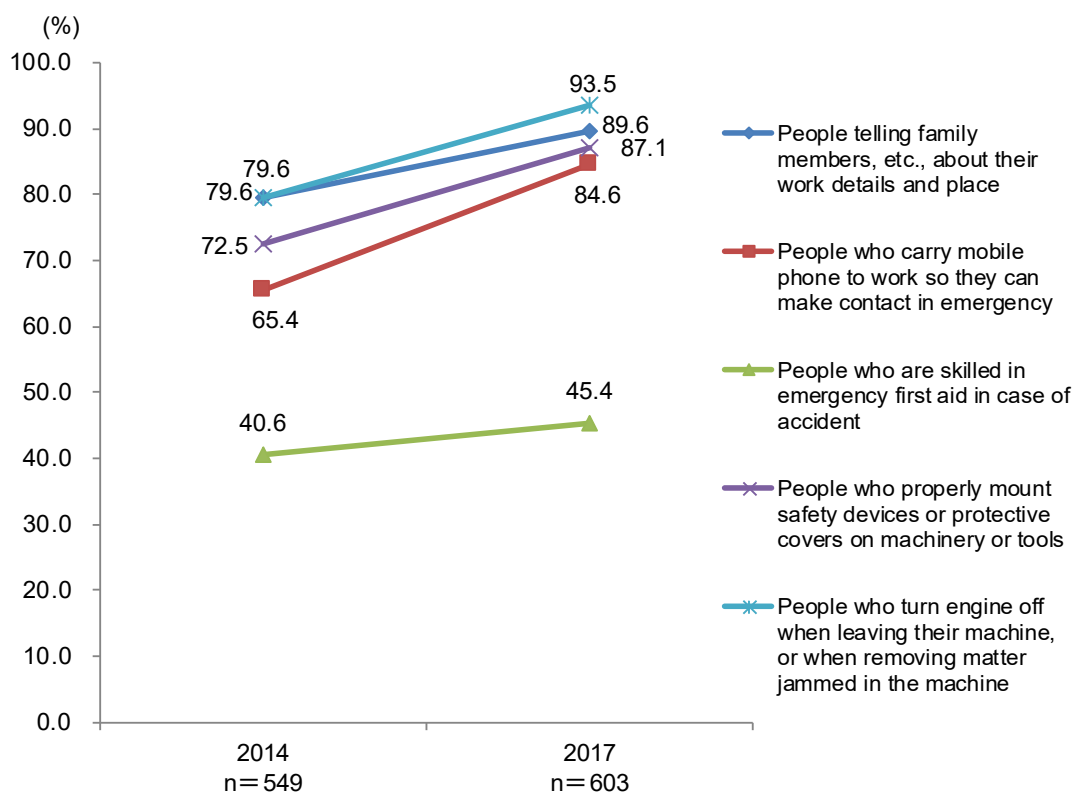
| Challenge | Measure | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------|---|
| | Direction | National / Prefecture level | City level | Community level |
| (2) There are work accidents in various fields such as manufacturing, retail, and construction. Most accidents are caused by falling (over/down). | Education and promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work accidents prevention plan STOP falling accident project Winter work accidents prevention plan Zero accident 3-month campaign Aomori Prefecture Industrial Safety and Sanitation Convention | | |
| | Enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial Safety and Health Act | | |
| | Environment | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of environment by installation of anti-slipping mattress and protective shoes |

■ **Task Force Involvement**
Distribution of leaflets designed for prevention of work accidents

< (1) Farming work accident prevention program >

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Challenge | Most persons injured during farming work are over 60 years old. | |
| Goal | Prevent accidents during farming work. | |
| Details, etc. | Promote seminars on preventing farming work accidents. | |
| | [Target] | Persons involved with farming |
| | [Activity] | Promote existing "Farming work Accident Prevention Seminar". |
| | [Personnel] | JA, farming equipment makers, City Hall |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | People taking safety measures before starting work | Farming safety confirmation survey |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | Rate of people who implement safety measures for farming equipment | Farming safety confirmation survey |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of injuries at farms | Emergency transport and medical institution consultation data |

Fig. 3-36 Farming safety confirmation survey



< (2) Program to prevent falling (over and down) accidents at workplace >

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Challenge | There are work accidents in various fields such as manufacturing, retail, and construction. Most accidents are caused by falling (over and down). | |
| Goal | Reduce injuries caused by industrial accidents. | |
| Details, etc. | Distribute leaflet designed for prevention of work accidents. | |
| | [Target] | Workers |
| | [Activity] | Promote at Industrial Safety and Sanitation Convention. |
| | [Personnel] | Kamikita Labor Standards Association, Labor Standards Inspection Office |
| (Short-term) Changes in recognition and knowledge | Are measures taken to prevent falling (over and down)? | Survey related to safety measures at companies and businesses, etc. |
| (Mid-term) Changes in behavior and actions | | |
| (Long-term) Changes in state or situation | Number of industrial accidents | Labor Standards Inspection Office survey |

Indicator 7: Ongoing Participation in National and International Safe Communities Networks


As a Safe Community certified city, Towada City has participated in Safe Community network activities in Japan and overseas, and we are applying advanced cases of injury prevention programs, etc., into our safe and secure city planning.

We are also working to develop Safe Community activities in Japan by actively receiving tours.

As a member of the Safe Community network, we will continue to relay our programs while exchanging information with other cities.

[1] State of Participation in National and International Networks (after Re-designation in February 2014)

As of July 1, 2019

| Class | Participation in national and international networks | |
|---------------|---|--|
| February 2014 | Participated in Kameoka City SC Re-designation 1st Year Anniversary Event "Citizen Safety and Security Forum in Kameoka 2014" | |
| November 2015 | Participated in Atsugi City, Kanagawa Prefecture SC Re-designation ceremony | |
| November 2015 | Participated in Chichibu City, Saitama Prefecture Safe Community Certification Ceremony | |
| January 2016 | Participated in Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture Safe Community Certification Ceremony | |
| February 2016 | Participated in Koka City, Shiga Prefecture Safe Community Certification Ceremony | |
| April 2016 | Pediatricians from Thailand visited Towada to observe Safe Community program |  |
| October 2016 | Participated in Izumiotsu City, Osaka Safe Community Certification Ceremony | |
| February 2018 | Participated in Koriyama City, Fukushima Prefecture Safe Community Certification Ceremony | |
| July 2018 | Observed Kameoka City, Kyoto SC on-site evaluation | |
| October 2018 | Participated in Sakae Ward, Yokohama City SC Re-designation ceremony | |
| November 2018 | Participated in the 9th Asian Regional Conference on Safe Communities (Atsugi City, Kanagawa Prefecture) | |

[2] Site Visit Acceptance (after Re-designation in February 2014)

| Year | Number of tours received (case) | Number of participants (people) |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2015 | 1 | 9 |
| 2016 | 2 | 6 |
| 2017 | 6 | 63 |
| 2018 | 1 | 9 |
| 2019 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 10 | 87 |

Chapter 4 Long-range Prospects for Towada City's Safe Community Activities

[1] Positioning of Towada City's General Plan

In our City's priority 2nd Phase Towada City General Plan, our future city image is defined as, "Created by the Citizens - Towada City Filled with Hope and Energy". In this Plan, we have positioned promotion of Safe Community activities in the 1st stage enforcement plan starting from 2017, the 2nd stage enforcement plan from 2021, and the 3rd stage enforcement plan from 2024.


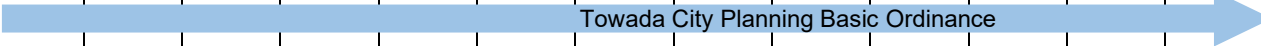
As long-term programs, we are developing Health Promotion Activities to support health creation by reinforcing our health, medical and welfare systems, and Safety Promotion Activities to prevent accidents and injuries to ensure safety in our citizens' lives. We will verify the effect and evaluation of our programs, and aim to acquire Safe Community Certification every five years.

| 2nd Phase Towada City General Plan (FY2017 to FY2026) | |
|---|--|
| Future city image | ~Created by the Citizens ~ Towada City Filled with Hope and Energy |
| Basic goal | Safe and Secure City where communities help each other to build resilience to disaster and eliminate crime |
| Measures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maintain fire prevention, emergency service, and disaster prevention system ● Secure safety and security in daily life ● Re-vitalize regional community ● Promote diverse exchange ● Promote measures to utilize abandoned houses ● Support independence of consumers |
| Basic program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promotion of community safety measures ● Promotion of traffic safety measures ● Environment for preventing accidents and crime |
| Enforcement plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st stage enforcement plan (FY2017 to 2020) [Project name] Promotion of Safe Community ● 2nd stage enforcement plan (FY2021 to 2023) ● 3rd stage enforcement plan (FY2024 to 2026) |

[2] Long-range Prospects

In April 2013, Towada City enacted the "Towada City Planning Basic Ordinance", setting forth the basic ideas and rules related to city planning. Following this ordinance, the citizens, city council and administration are collaborating to realize "City Planning through Cooperation" to promote the creation of a safe and secure city. We will continue to work together with our citizens, etc. to create a safe and secure city. We will use this Safe Community re-designation as a transit point to continue our Safe Community activities and increase the quality of life in our city.

■ Promotion of general plan and long-range Safe Community activities.

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|---|------|--------------------|--|------|------|--|---------------|------|------|--|------|---------------|
| | | 2nd re-designation | | | | | Certification | | | | | Certification |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>● 2nd Phase Towada City General Plan Basic Concept, Basic Plan (2017 to 2026)</p> <p>[Future city image] ~ Created by the Citizens ~ Towada City Filled with Hope and Energy</p> <p>[Basic goal] Safe and Secure City where communities help each other to build resilience to disaster and eliminate crime</p> | | | | | | | | | | <p>● 3rd Phase Towada City General Plan Concept and Basic Plan (from 2027)</p> | | |
| <p>◆ 1st stage enforcement plan (FY2017 to 2020)</p> <p>[Project item] · Projects to promote Safe Community</p> | | | <p>◆ 2nd stage enforcement plan (FY2021 to 2023)</p> | | | <p>◆ 3rd stage enforcement plan (FY2024 to 2026)</p> | | | | | | |
| <p>● Direction of Safe Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishment of organization to promote activities through cooperation with neighborhood associations and citizen groups, etc. ○ Creation and enforcement of scientific and sustainable programs ○ Establishment of effective evaluation system ○ Establishment of system to use data to improve programs ○ Establishment of regional task force system <p>● Long-term targets of Safe Community</p> <p>Collaborate with citizens, etc., to establish a safe and secure city and improve the quality of life.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Towada City Safe Community Re-designation Application

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